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SWIFT TO POINT OUT THAT SHE'S READY TO EXPLORE NEW SOUNDS

TAYLOR SWIFT LEAVES HER COUNTRY ROOTS BEHIND ON NEW ALBUM AND GOES FULL-BLOWN POP PAGE 25

Phew, now that the election is behind us ...

Andray Domise lost Ward 2 but won Twitter, John Tory names his transition team, and Doug Ford sets sights on provincial PC leadership PAGES 3-4

Bernier stops only 10 shots, gets a shutout

Leafs tie a franchise record for fewest shots on goal allowed and skate to a 4-0 victory over Buffalo PAGE 34

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

A son, and a country, say goodbye

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo.
Slain soldier's son puts on a brave face as nation pays their final respects

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo's son, Marcus, is carried along a procession route during a military funeral held Tuesday for his father, the soldier who was killed in Ottawa last week. Marcus bravely walked through Hamilton's streets as he and the country said goodbye. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It was a hat just like his dad's, a special gift from his father's regiment — the kind given when there are simply no words, least of all for a five-year-old child.

With its distinctive red-and-white checker pattern, the Glengarry cap was the same type his dad proudly wore with Hamilton's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the one that topped the uniform of 24-year-old Cpl. Nathan Cirillo as he guarded the National War Memorial, the one that would soon be placed on the soldier's coffin.

And so Marcus Cirillo, dressed in a child-size suit with a poppy pinned to his lapel, donned the hat just like his dad's, then bravely marched through Hamilton's streets as he, and the country now watching, said goodbye Tuesday.

Up ahead, soldiers in a sombre procession walked alongside the flag-draped casket, thousands looking on. Marcus watched their slow, deliberate steps, then began taking his own, mimicking the march.

Inside Christ's Church Cathedral, packed with his father's family, comrades and dignitaries, the small boy settled into the lap of a loved one as tribute was paid to the soldier killed in Ottawa last week.

"May his son, young Marcus Daniel Cirillo, someday find comfort in the fact that our entire country looks up to his dad with pride, with gratitude, with deep abiding respect," said Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

For now, it may be hard enough to understand that his dad is not just away at a weekend army training exercise, not out of town on a temporary assignment.

No one can replace the man described as a "kid at heart," the person who was not just Marcus's dad, but his friend, said relative Jenny Holland.

But where Cirillo once found a strong, united family, so, too, will his son. Fellow Argylls will step up, assures longtime friend and fellow soldier Ryan Weinberger, one of Cirillo's pallbearers. They'll take Marcus to the park, out for dinner. They'll be there for him.

The regiment family, Weinberger said, "only gets stronger when members pass away."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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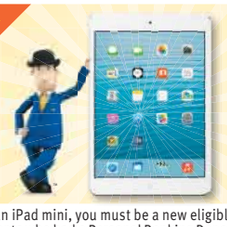

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Why candidates who were Twitter faves didn't win

Analysis. 'It's tough to do a council race without institutional support' from a political party, acknowledges the campaign manager of election underdog Andray Domise

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

In the campaign for Ward 2, Etobicoke North, Andray Domise won Twitter but lost the election to Rob Ford — just don't call it a cautionary tale.

"Cautionary tale, my black ass," Domise wrote in response to that suggestion in a blog post thanking his supporters.

Domise placed third in the ward, with only eight per cent of the votes. He is high on the list of the most influential Toronto politics Twitter users compiled by the data analysts at Vox Pop Labs (44th of more than 25,000 re-tweeted users of the hashtag), who scored users on the re-tweets they got from other tweeters using the #topoli hashtag.

Rob Ford, on the other hand, doesn't use computers or the Internet, according to his brother Doug.

Domise's official campaign account and his campaign manager were also high on the twitterati list—as were a number of candidates who didn't win in their wards. #Topoli Twitter favourites — among them Alejandra Bravo, Idil Burale, Alex Mazer and Keegan Henry-Mathieu—were defeated by the incumbents with relatively poor social media campaigns.

Toronto city council candidate Andray Domise lost the race against Rob Ford, despite a huge Twitter following. CHRIS SO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

According to the Domise campaign, social media worked for him despite the loss. It amplified Domise's message and earned him mainstream media support and endorsements. Volunteers and donations flooded in from across the city. By the end of the campaign, he'd boosted his name recognition in the ward to 70 per cent from practically nothing.

"Our campaign managed to raise about $65,000 in a few short months, and that didn't happen by accident," Domise wrote. "The money we managed to raise was raised primarily on the back of social media presence. By speaking my mind, proposing new ideas to make Rexdale a better place and by holding politicians accountable, the campaign message resonated with donors. They put their money behind a cause they deemed worthy of fighting for."

Andrew Young, Domise's campaign manager, said the "overwhelming majority" of donations to Domise came from outside of the ward, which may in part explain why the money didn't translate into votes.

"Andray was getting calls last night (with) best wishes from Saskatoon," he said. "A friend in New York said they'd heard of him and sent along best wishes."

Building a big media presence was a strategy to compete with Ford's global media presence and vast resources, said Young.

Besides urging Twitter to boost its market penetration in Etobicoke, the only way to turn broad support into local votes could have come from the institutional help of a political party, with voter lists, knowledge and get-out-the-vote machines, said Young.

"It's tough to do a council race without institutional support," he said.

Jean-Pierre Boutros, who ran in the competitive Ward 16 race, is also popular on Twitter and earned endorsements from across the city, but he lacked institutional support. He placed fourth, with 10.7 per cent of the vote.

"My support across the city was great. Support in the ward is always predicated on knocking on doors. I always knew that and believe that," he said. "The issue for me is I should have knocked on doors earlier."

Boutros found outside-the-ward backing from people who had volunteered on David Soknacki's mayoral campaign and those who believed in his support of an LRT, rather than a subway, in Scarborough. However, he called his social media support "a bubble."

"Social media isn't a reflection of popularity, I knew that from the beginning," he said.

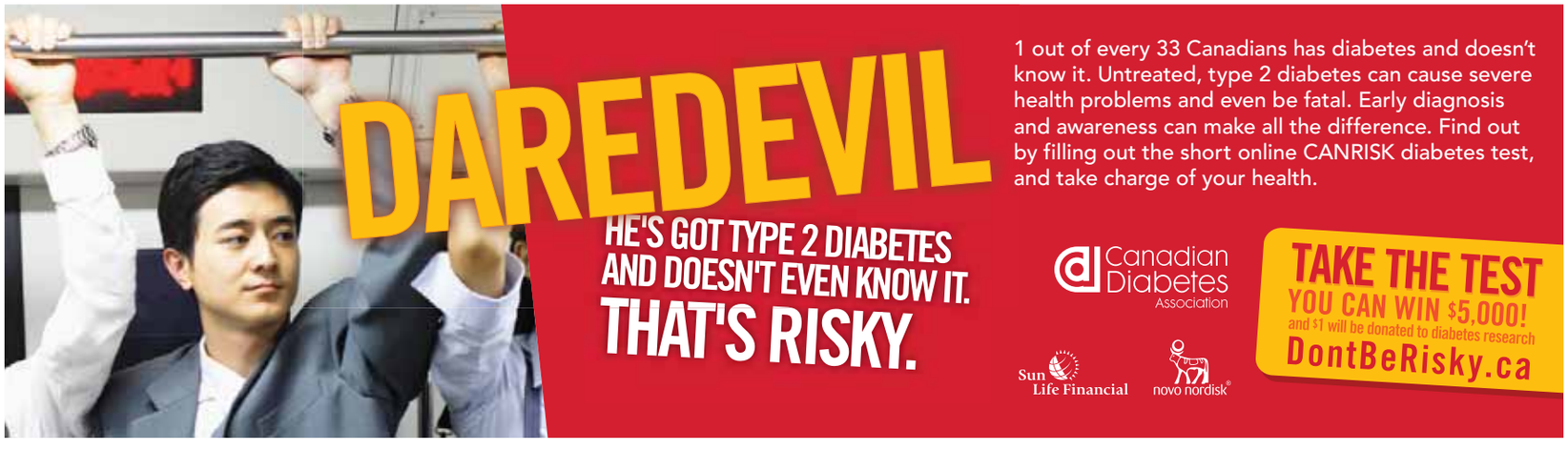
The ward's winner, by less than 300 votes, was Cristin Carmichael Greb, who had institutional support from her father, Tory MP John Carmichael, and other conservatives, said Boutros.

Follow Jessica Smith Cross on Twitter @jessiecatherine

Quoted

"It was a victory, in that we showed that political campaigns aren't only for the rich, famous or well-connected."

Andray Domise on losing in Ward 2



John Tory will be sworn in as mayor Dec. 2. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City hall transition team

Tory calls on Chow, Soknacki

On his first day as mayor-elect, John Tory named his 29-person transition team and began selecting his staff at city hall.

In the wake of his victory over Doug Ford and Olivia Chow, Tory is now calling on his political rivals to join him at city hall when he takes the chair in December.

The new transition team will include former journalist-turned communications expert Christopher Eby, who becomes Tory's chief of staff.

Vic Gupta, a one-time provincial Progressive Conservative candidate in Richmond Hill, becomes Tory's principal secretary.

Gupta was the executive assistant to councillor Rob Davis from 1997 until 1999. He was also the deputy campaign manager for Tory's 2003 mayoral bid.

Both Gupta and Eby formerly worked at Sussex Strategy Group in Toronto.

The transition team and advisory council will both be led by former deputy mayor Case Ootes, who also helmed Rob Ford's transition team in 2010.

The team includes campaign strategist Nick Kouvalis and mayoral candidate David Soknacki.

Tory said he spoke with Olivia Chow on Monday, after the polls closed.

"Olivia I had a brief conversation with last night, obviously on the phone. And I've obviously said some things publicly, which I meant — which is that I would like to find a way for both of them to participate in some way," Tory said of both Chow and Soknacki in a phone interview Tuesday.

Chow said she has not yet decided what she will do post election.

Tory said he would also like Doug Ford, Karen Stintz and Ari Goldkind to be involved at city hall in some way.

Tory's first day as mayor-elect started at 5 a.m. on Tuesday, when he began making the interview circuit on radio and TV. He told Ryan Doyle, the host of his former show The Live Drive on Newstalk 1010, that he would strive to not act like an "ass" on council. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Doug Ford is just what Ont. PCs need, says Doug Ford

'Fresh blood.' Ford says his strong showing in T.O. mayor's race shows he's a natural to run for PC leader and defeat the Liberals in 2018

Fresh from a strong second-place showing in the mayor's race, Doug Ford is eyeing a run for the Progressive Conservative leadership, saying he's the only candidate with the chops to beat Premier Kathleen Wynne.

"We bring a whole new demographic to the table. I think we've changed politics … focusing on campaigning for the people," Ford told Torstar News Service on Tuesday, promising a decision in "a few weeks."

"I can honestly say I wouldn't rule that out right now. I'm going to spend some time with the team at our company and my family and see where we go from here."

Ford dominated Etobicoke and Scarborough in the mayoral election, polling more than 330,000 ballots city-wide and garnering 34 per cent of the vote to mayor-elect John Tory's 40 per cent.

"I think we would have a big base of support," Ford added, noting Toronto and its suburbs have not been fertile ground for the Conservatives, who have been shut out of power since 2003 under leaders Ernie Eves, John Tory and Tim Hudak.

"We have to start focusing more on the hard-working blue-collar people. Out of the votes I had (for mayor) I would say probably three-quarters of them would never vote PC in their lives."

Ford, president of the family business Deco Labels & Tags, has previously mused about running in Etobicoke North for the Progressive Conservatives but decided against it.

A Ford candidacy would add interest to a race that has attracted four MPPs from Queen's Park — Christine Elliott (whose late husband, Jim Flaherty, was a close friend of the Fords), Vic Fedeli, Lisa MacLeod and Monte McNaughton — and Barrie MP Patrick Brown.

Doug Ford makes his concession speech following his loss in the civic election in Toronto Monday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"My personal opinion, I don't think any of the candidates could beat Kathleen Wynne … they don't attract a certain base in Toronto and the 905 that we would attract."

But Ford would be playing catch-up, given that potential rivals have been travelling the province lining up support for the May 9 leadership convention, particularly in areas outside the GTA. Ford said the party needs to be more progressive, echoing statements by other candidates who said Hudak's spring election promise to cut 100,000 public sector jobs was to blame for the party's rout.

"We have to attract the union voters like we do in the mayoral election, and we have to attract people from the TCHC, the common people," Ford said of community housing residents. "I wouldn't be out there laying off a million people. There's efficiencies to be had without going after government workers, that's for sure."

Ford insisted he is the "fresh blood" the Conservatives need to get back into power in the 2018 provincial election. "We need to clean the PC party out … from top to bottom."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jan. 30 deadline

The deadline for entering the race, which requires a $75,000 entry fee plus a refundable $25,000 deposit, is Jan. 30. Papers can officially be filed starting Nov. 8. Privately, a number of Conservatives wince at the prospect of a Ford candidacy, saying Rob Ford's scandals and some statements by Doug Ford could be a toxic turn-off for voters. He recently called a Torstar reporter "a little bitch." He denied the remark was aimed at her.

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Privacy breaches at Ontario hospitals 'not OK': Official

Medical records. Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner Brian Beamish says thousands of violations could be going unreported every year

Acting IPC Commissioner Brian Beamish. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayor Rob Ford's medical records being improperly accessed by health professionals is just one of potentially thousands of privacy breaches that occur in Ontario hospitals every year.

More than 400 health-related privacy violation complaints were lodged with the provincial Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) in 2012, and then again in 2013.

However, because hospitals are not legally obliged to notify authorities, thousands of violations could be going unreported every year, Acting IPC Commissioner Brian Beamish told Torstar News Service.

Hospital workers in Toronto have been disciplined, and some fired, for taking photos of patients without their consent, losing scores of health records or inappropriately prying into a patient's file when they are not involved in their care.

Earlier this year, Torstar unveiled two major hospital privacy breach cases involving thousands of patients. In one case, hospitals inappropriately provided patient information to baby photographers and in another, hospitals were handing out patient contact information to private marketing companies.

Medical records are about as private as it gets, and as more patient files are uploaded into the online world, the potential for privacy violations increases.

Beamish is calling for these serious breaches to result in prosecutions under the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) — legislation that has resulted in only one prosecution in the past 10 years.

"People know generally they shouldn't be doing this. They need to know they will be found out and that there will be consequences," he said.

These wilful breaches of hospital policies and medical codes of conduct have resulted in staff members being disciplined, suspended without pay and some sacked, University Health Network (UHN) spokeswoman Gillian Howard told Torstar.

Since Mayor Rob Ford's shock cancer diagnosis last month, both Mount Sinai and Humber River hospitals have admitted staff members snooped on his medical files.

Mount Sinai Hospital reported about 20 privacy breaches every year since 2010.

All health professionals used personal and traceable log-in pass codes that left an electronic fingerprint on every record they accessed, hospital spokeswoman Sally Szuster said.

The hospital performs regular audits to monitor unauthorized access of medical files and it ramped up the auditing process when high-profile patients are admitted, such as Ford.

When an audit raises a red flag it is immediately investigated, Szuster said.

This type of privacy breach is "as serious as you can get – it's horrific," Beamish said of the Ford incidents.

Health professionals "knew they didn't have the right to look and that there was a chance they would be found out — but they still went ahead and did it," he said.

Health-related privacy violations are governed under the PHIPA, which can prosecute individuals up to $50,000 and institutions up to $250,000 if found guilty.

The act was introduced in 2004 and only one prosecution has been lodged so far, Beamish said. This violation occurred in North Bay, with medical staff alleged to have inappropriately accessed medical records.

"We should have more prosecutions as this would send a strong message to health professionals that this is not OK," he said.

IPC will soon meet with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to talk about how to encourage more prosecutions under the act, Beamish said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

At a glance

The University Health Network, responsible for four major hospitals in Toronto, started capturing privacy data through the middle of the 2012/13 financial year. Since then, it has logged 258 privacy incidents, including:

- Taking photographs of a patient without consent.
- Using patient information for research without consent or hospital approval.
- Faxing medical records to the wrong care provider.
- Using patient information for research without consent or hospital approval.
- Storing unencrypted patient information on personal laptops.

Social media

Toronto went to the polls, Twitter on Monday

Social media was ablaze with chatter surrounding the Toronto municipal election Monday evening.

More than 88,000 election-related tweets had been sent out in the preceding 24 hours before the polls closed.

The rate rose as the day progressed. Users were sending about 78 tweets-per-minute Monday morning, climbing to 120 tweets-per-minute by 7:30 p.m., according to a report from Twitter.

Election tweeting peaked at 2,193 tweets per minute between 6 and 7 p.m.

The Twitter report also showed that the use of #TOpoli increased exponentially until just after 8 p.m., when the results of the election were revealed.

Election babble was comparatively hushed the day before Toronto went to vote. Twitter reported roughly 28 tweets per minute with #TOpoli were being circulated on Sunday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Wasting' cash. Ont. Liberals bleeding money to private IT firms: NDP

Ontario's Liberal government is making "a huge mistake" by spending over $700 million a year on outside information technology consultants, the New Democrats charged Tuesday.

The province has $130 million worth of fee-for-service deals with nearly 1,500 IT consultants, and another $570 million in contracts with large tech companies, on top of its own staff of 3,600 IT professionals, said NDP finance critic Catherine Fife.

"Many of these private IT contractors perform the same tasks as the IT staff currently employed directly by the government, except they cost two to three times more," Fife told the legislature.

"Significantly reducing private outsourcing of IT could save this government $200 million. It's almost like you are wilfully wasting money.

"When will this government reverse its policy of outsourcing IT and admit that it is a wasteful and expensive approach that results in hundreds of millions of wasted dollars every single year," Fife asked.

"When we follow the money, we see that you are dedicated to private IT over the (Ontario Public Service). No doubt about it."

Finance Minister Charles Sousa said the government has been taking steps to reduce its use of private IT consultants, but needs them "for short-term and non-reoccurring projects like a one-time contract to get new programs up and running for cyber security upgrades," and for outside expertise.

"We're living in the Internet age and Ontarians expect their government to be accessible digitally," he said.

"We have a strong record of reducing the use of consultants across the government."

Sousa also said that since the Liberals were first elected in 2003, more than 1,500 IT consultant positions were converted to OPS staff jobs, resulting in ongoing savings of about $60 million a year.

"We need IT consultants when the capacity of our expertise does not exist within in the Ontario public service," he said.

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Timing 'perfect' for Royal York deal: Analyst

Ownership of Toronto's historic Royal York Hotel has been reorganized just in time to take advantage of soon-to-be-completed renovations at Union Station.

The timing is "perfect," one analyst said, as the buildings facing each other across Front Street will cease to be separated by jackhammers and shredded pavement for the first time in years, and a high-speed rail link will finally start funneling business commuters from Pearson airport into the downtown core.

In a deal announced Tuesday, a fund managed by real estate company KingSett will acquire a 60 per cent interest in the hotel worth an estimated $111.9 million, while InnVest Real Estate Investment Trust will pay $37.3 million for a 20 per cent stake. Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, the provincial pension fund and current owner of the Royal York, will keep a 20 per cent stake in the property through its subsidiary Ivanhoé Cambridge.

The joint-venture partners plan to spend $50 million on additional renovations of the 85-year-old property in the 24 months after the deal closes in January. The Royal York is in the midst of a $100 million renovation. More than 500 rooms are expected to be fully updated by the end of January following major infrastructure upgrades.

The historic Royal York Hotel on Front Street. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The joint venture said most of the additional $50 million will be earmarked for further room renovations in addition to upgrades to public spaces. The hotel has 2,700 square metres of retail space, nearly 6,000 square metres of meeting space and six bars and restaurants

The Royal York's current operator, Fairmont, will continue to run the hotel.

With Union Station's renovation almost complete and the downtown booming, the time seems ripe for investment in the building. "The timing is as close to perfect as you might imagine," said Charles Sudaby, head of the hospitality and gaming group at Cushman & Wakefield Ltd.

The Royal York was built in 1929, just two years after Union Station opened, and the fortunes of the neighbouring properties have often been linked. Union's overhaul is scheduled for completion in time for the Pan Am Games next July.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

After the election. More of the same for Toronto Catholic voters

This time around, Toronto Catholic voters stuck with what they know.

Unlike the 2010 election that brought in six new trustees out of the 12 after a string of spending controversies, Monday's election saw 10 incumbents return in two wards where current trustees chose not to run, two former trustees will replace them.

Mike Del Grande won Ward 7 after his son John stepped down, and Joseph Martin will now represent Ward 1.

"I think this was a very different election than the last election, which was the first term for many of us," said board Chair Jo-Ann Davis, who was elected in 2010.

"This election, voters are telling us they are happy with what they are seeing at the Toronto Catholic board" and that trustees will continue to focus on students and families.

Davis' platform focused on student success, "a lot at the community level" with social justice and making sure students from at-risk communities are well served by the board.

"That's a big focus for my downtown ward, which has such a disparity in income."

Trustees on the Toronto Catholic board are: Joseph Martino (Ward 1), Ann Andrachuk (Ward 2), Sal Piccininni (Ward 3), Patrizia Bottoni (Ward 4), Maria Rizzo (Ward 5), Frank D'Amico (Ward 6), Mike Del Grande (Ward 7), Garry Tanuan (Ward 8), Jo-Ann Davis (Ward 9), Barbara Poplawski (Ward 10), Angela Kennedy (Ward 11) and Nancy Crawford (Ward 12).

In the 2010 election, the archdiocese took an unusually active role, urging Catholics to run for trustee, allowing campaigning on church property and telling congregations to "vote wisely" and choose "exemplary" candidates who "respect the law."

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SmartTrack won the day, but far from done deal

More talks to come.
Tory wants to move on his transit plan, but council and senior governments will have a say in what gets built

John Tory, seen near Bayview and Pottery Road, still has to bring senior governments on board for his transit plan. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

John Tory has steered his SmartTrack "surface subway" straight into the mayor's office, pulling the Scarborough subway along with it.

To voters it's a signal that Toronto's endless transit talk could finally be giving way to action. In reality, there are likely many more transit debates ahead for the new council.

Talk about SmartTrack now moves from campaign mode to "more granular conversations" with senior governments, Tory said on Tuesday.

"Because before much else can happen, I have to bring them on board and get them to be supportive of this," he told Torstar News Service.

The province appears ready. Ontario Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca sent a letter Tuesday suggesting Tory's team meet with senior Metrolinx officials to discuss "the (complementary) elements between (the province's) regional (GO) express rail and Mr. Tory's SmartTrack plan."

Coun. Gord Perks said it's likely that city staff have already prepared briefing notes for the incoming mayor.

"They will have their own analysis of the (SmartTrack) financial and technical challenges and that will be somewhat different from what Mr. Tory has put in front of the public," said Perks.

"I imagine that analysis will modify what Mr. Tory is going to put in front of council at some point," he added.

Tory has also said he's eager to move ahead on the Scarborough subway and put an end to the debates about the kind of transit to build there. But that debate may finally be running out of steam anyway.

Returning centrist Coun. Josh Matlow argued passionately in favour of LRT in his first term.

But Matlow said he's struggling with the issue now.

On the one hand, he still thinks the three-stop subway versus a seven-stop LRT was a poor decision. However, he understands that the province and city have been clear they want a subway.

"What I will have to decide very soon is whether or not it is the right thing to do for Scarborough and Toronto to take yet another look at that question, or if I have to recognize the reality before me and if there's a realistic ability to change that reality," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pollsters got it right in mayoral race

Love or hate them, the public opinion polls that tracked Toronto's closely watched mayoral election correctly predicted John Tory would win and, overall, did a good job forecasting Monday night's results.

Tory is Toronto's next mayor after capturing 40.3 per cent of the vote. Doug Ford came second with 33.7 per cent, beating Olivia Chow, who drew 23.2 per cent of the vote. The dozens of other mayoral candidates combined took the remaining 2.8 per cent.

They called it

34%

Mainstreet Technologies was the only poll to "nail" the support level of one of the candidates, estimating Ford's support at 34 per cent, Eric Grenier wrote on ThreeHundredEight.com. It was also closest on its estimate of Chow's support, while slightly over-estimating support for Tory.

The polls, on average, estimated each candidate's support to within two points, Eric Grenier, a polling analyst, wrote on the website ThreeHundredEight.com.

"All of the polls were showing the exact same thing, which makes it more unlikely that there will be some sort of surprise," he said. "It was either they were all going to swim together or sink together." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Aoki's answers as crazy as his music

Neon Future I. Electro-house musician in Toronto to celebrate new album

MIKE BENHAIM
toronto@metronews.ca

Some call him a DJ, but American electro-houser Steve Aoki is in fact an artist, producer and Grammy-nominated musician renowned for outrageous live shows.

Aoki has collaborated with music's hottest artists including will.i.am, Iggy Azalea and Fall Out Boy. He was in Toronto Tuesday celebrating his newly released Neon Future I and graciously set aside time to chat with Metro.

Metro: You produce original tracks, but also remixes. Where does that rank in today's landscape?
Aoki: Remixes are for a crowd in the moment. What makes them jump. Now. Not like writing a song, which is timeless and portable.
M: In 2006, you joined Music is Revolution, a charity benefitting music education in public schools. What drew you to that?
A: MC5 bassist Michael Davis produced a band I signed from Sweden called Dollhouse, and we became close. He started the foundation, and everything fit. The concept, the work, just felt right.
M: On stage, you spray real champagne?
A: Yeah, the cheap plastic-cork stuff doesn't spray well. You shake up Dom or Moet, and it shoots.
M: And at VELD, you caked a kid in a wheelchair?
A: Yeah, and he embraced it. I invited him backstage, put it on my weblog, and he was a star. Since then he's come to other shows and I've caked him a couple more times.
M: What's new about Neon Future I?
A: Musically, it's miles beyond Wonderland, which was my training ground ... This was more cohesively produced. Conceptually, it flows even with tracks tailored to every different artist. It's packed, powerful and fun. I'm proud of it.
M: And NF II Launches in 2015?
A: It's almost finished. It's a colourful array of collaborations with Snoop, Linkin Park, and a huge song with Canadian-band Walk Off the Earth.
M: Describe the most pivotal moment of your career?
A: Getting a Grammy nomination. It made me realize that dance music is gaining respect beyond the clubs. That it's accepted.
M: What extravagance do you afford that you couldn't before?
A: I asked for nail clippers before, and somebody just brought me some. Before, I'd have had to get them myself.

Steve Aoki celebrates the release of his new album, Neon Future I, at the Empire State Building in New York City on Oct. 3. JAMIE MCCARTHY/GETTY IMAGES

T.O.'s newest superhero: The Pitiful Human-Lizard

The appearance of Chinook in Marvel's recent Death of Wolverine: The Logan Legacy series is the latest in an ongoing resurgence of Canadian superheroes in the comic book world. DC Comics also recently introduced its own Canadian character — Equinox, a Cree teen superhero from Moose Factory, Ont.

From self-publishing new characters to crowd-funding the return of wartime staples, Canadian comic book lovers are driving this push for a new league of heroes in the Great White North.

Chinook's recent Marvel appearance is marked by some cheeky Toronto references. On one page, the Canadian hero tells another character about a local crime lord who looks a "bit like Rob Ford in a muumuu."

The red-and-white clad Chinook bears the same name as a superhero from decades past, but this 2014 incarnation is a modern "Toronto version of Batman, kind of," said creator Tim Seeley.

While the Chicago-based comic book writer and artist doesn't have more storylines in mind for Chinook, he hopes it's not the last time the character appears. "The reigns are there if a Canadian writer wants to pick him up and pitch him to Marvel," Seeley said.

But Canadian comic lovers aren't waiting around to collaborate with the big comic book producers — they're taking things into their own hands.

"We want to see our Canadian superheroes thrive," said local comic book artist Jason Loo. Loo wrote, drew and crowdfunded his own series, featuring Toronto's newest superhero: The Pitiful Human-Lizard.

A crime fighter by night, with a desk job by day, the Human-Lizard is Loo's brainchild: a not-so-super hero named Lucas Barrett, whose struggles range from "having bad credit to fighting a 60-foot spiky monster at Dufferin and Queen."

Torontonians will notice plenty of references to the city in Loo's work, like one scene where a monstrous supervillian battles the Human-Lizard in the Royal Ontario Museum's dinosaur fossil exhibit. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto's newest superhero rides the 501 streetcar. COURTESY JASON LOO

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‘This is soul-destroying stuff for women’

A lawyer for a senior Manitoba justice who faces removal from the bench because of nude photographs posted on the Internet says a disciplinary panel of judges should not view the photos because it would violate the privacy of a victim.

Sheila Block, who represents Associate Chief Justice Lori Douglas, told the panel reviewing her conduct that the racy photos should be returned to Douglas.

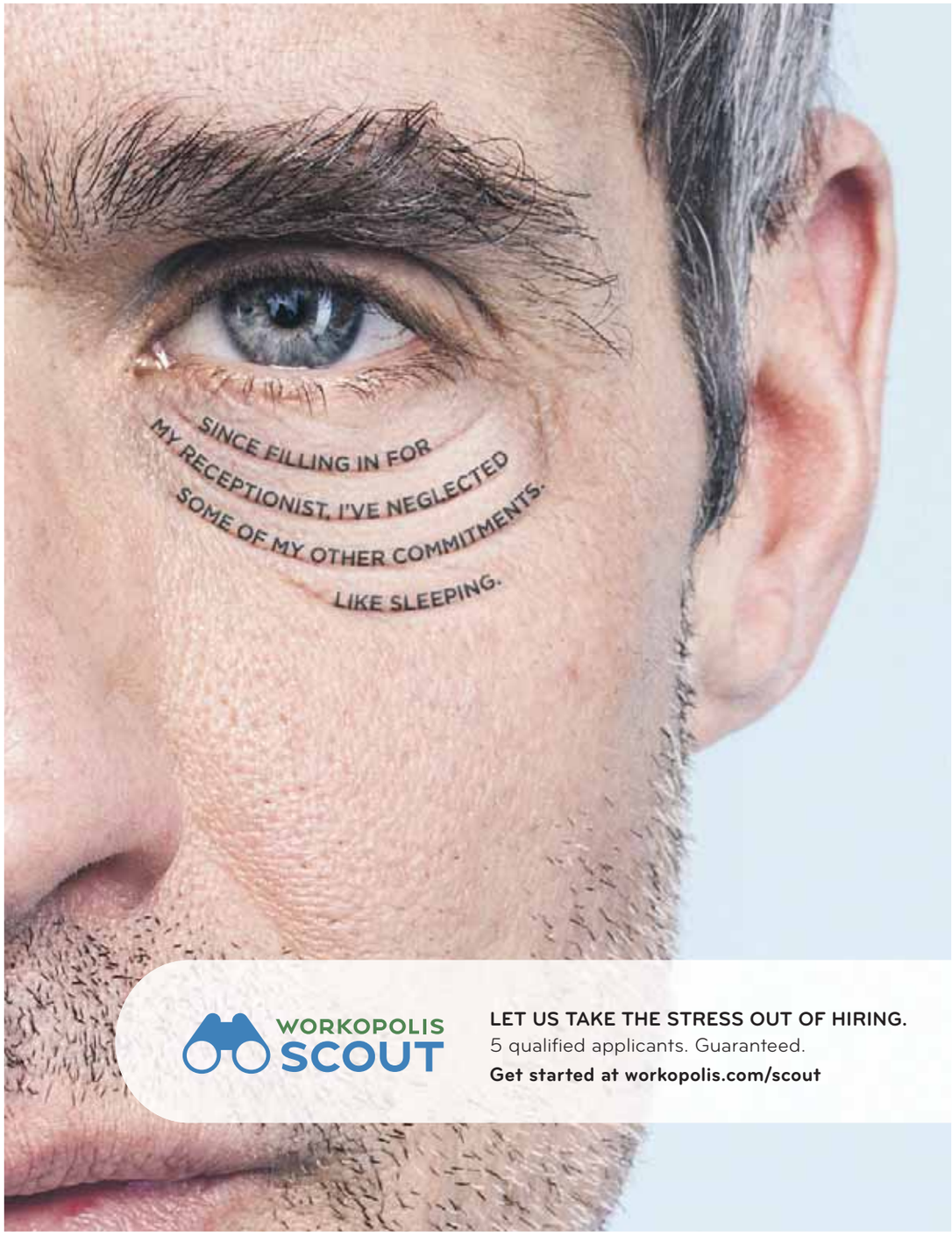
“Any viewing is an assault on that victim,” Block said at the hearing in Winnipeg on Tuesday. “This is soul-destroying stuff for women.”

The photos were not released with Douglas’s consent and are not vital to the tribunal’s work, Block argued.

The photos were taken by Douglas’s late husband Jack King, who posted them on a website in 2003 and showed them to a client to try to entice him to have sex with his wife. Both King and Douglas were lawyers at the time. King admitted sharing the pictures without Douglas’s knowledge.

Alexander Chapman, King’s client, alleged he was sexually harassed by King’s actions. He accepted $25,000 to drop the complaint and destroy the photos. But he held on to copies of the pictures and made them public in 2010.

A disciplinary panel struck by the Canadian Judicial Council is examining whether the photos are “inherently contrary to the image and concept of integrity” and undermine the justice system. The panel is also looking at whether Douglas failed to disclose their existence before she was appointed a judge in 2005 and whether she altered her personal diary when she discovered the council investigation into her conduct. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Diran Lin, father of victim Jun Lin, heads back to the courtroom at the trial for Luka Rocco Magnotta on Tuesday in Montreal. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Court hears testimony of Magnotta’s Berlin arrest

Murder trial. Defence lawyer set to begin presenting case Friday

The dramatic search for Luka Rocco Magnotta ended at a Berlin Internet café in June 2012 with an abrupt admission from the accused that he was the person authorities were looking for.

Confronted by a German police officer in the café, Magnotta initially identified himself as Kirk Trammell, an American from New York who didn’t have any identification on him, his murder trial heard Tuesday. But a persistent German patrol officer, Marc Lilge, continued to question the man, who was stuttering, shaking and sweating, as several police cadets shadowing Lilge looked on. The admission came after a few minutes.

“‘You got me, I’m Mr. Magnotta, I’m the man you’re looking for,’” Lilge quoted Magnotta as saying.

Magnotta, 32, is charged with first-degree murder in the slaying and dismemberment of Jun Lin in May 2012 in Montreal before he fled to Paris and then Berlin. He admitted to killing the Chinese engineering student, but has pleaded not guilty by way of mental disorder.

Crown prosecutor Louis Bouthillier presented his final scheduled witness on Tuesday afternoon. Following the testimony, Quebec Superior Court Justice Guy Cournoyer addressed the jury.

“With this, the evidence of the prosecution is almost completed,” Cournoyer said. “Counsel are working on the last series of written admissions and this requires some verification. We don’t want that verification to be carried through in unnecessary haste.”

Cournoyer suspended the proceedings until Friday, when defence lawyer Luc Leclair is expected to begin presenting his case.

On Tuesday, several German witnesses provided a snapshot of June 4, 2012, the day Magnotta was arrested.

Lilge said he handcuffed Magnotta immediately and that the Canadian’s last words were that he wanted to leave the scene before the media arrived.

The officer testified that Magnotta had a smirk on his face as he was transported to a detention centre.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Additional charges

Magnotta faces four charges in addition to premeditated murder: criminally harassing Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other members of Parliament; mailing obscene and indecent material; committing an indignity to a body; and publishing obscene materials.

WWII airmen honoured as plane pulled from lake

Muskoka. Aircraft carrying two men crashed in 1940

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo wasn't the only fallen Canadian honoured Tuesday.

Seven decades after their deaths, a solemn two minutes of silence was observed for two airmen at the place where their plane went down — in the middle of picturesque Lake Muskoka.

Their Northrop A-17 Nomad aircraft collided in-flight with a similar plane on Dec. 13, 1940 — about a year into the Second World War — while on a search mission for an airman who had gone missing.

The other plane was located shortly after the crash; both men on board were killed. But the Nomad carrying 24-year-old pilot Peter Campbell and 27-year-old observer Theodore Bates would not be found for almost 70 years.

In November 2007, a campaign was launched by the Royal Canadian Legion and the Lost Airmen of Muskoka Project to comb Lake Muskoka for the plane. The Nomad was finally discovered in July 2010 by Ontario Provincial Police divers.

Their remains were recovered by a Royal Canadian Navy team in October 2012 and they were honoured in an internment ceremony.

On Tuesday, rusted wreckage from the downed warplane was hoisted to the surface by a crane attached to a large truck on a barge.

Royal Canadian Air Force Maj. Jan Kennedy said the fact the recovery mission was happening at the same time as the funeral for Cirillo in Hamilton made the day all the more poignant. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Second World War plane is recovered from Lake Muskoka on Tuesday.
MIKE OLIVIERA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travel. Parole board to review whether Robert Latimer can leave Canada

The Parole Board of Canada says it will review a condition that bans Robert Latimer from leaving the country without permission.

A Federal Court judge ruled last month that there is nothing to indicate the 60-year-old is a danger and should be prevented from freely travelling outside Canada. The judge ordered the parole board's appeal division to reconsider the case.

A spokesman for the board said Tuesday that the appeal division recently decided that there was "sufficient information" to warrant a review.

"In making its decision, the board is required to consider all relevant, reliable and persuasive information including the reasons provided by the Federal Court," said a decision released by the board. "The board's exercise of its discretion must not be inconsistent with the protection of society and limited to only what is necessary and proportionate to the purpose of conditional release."

Latimer was convicted in 1997 of the second-degree murder of his 12-year-old daughter, Tracy, who had severe cerebral palsy. He had placed her in the cab of his truck on his family's farm near Wilkie, Sask., and piped exhaust inside.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Greg Selinger

Manitoba premier staying on despite questions

Greg Selinger says he is staying on as Manitoba premier despite questions from within his cabinet over his leadership.

Selinger says he has spoken to ministers who have been openly suggesting he consider his future.

"I've had a conversation with those folks today and I've said that we have to focus our energy on the priorities of Manitobans," Selinger said Tuesday at a late-afternoon news conference.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Thousands line streets to say goodbye to Cpl. Cirillo

Funeral procession. Family, friends and complete strangers pay respects to soldier gunned down in Ottawa last week

Katherine Cirillo, mother of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, is full of emotion as she walks along the procession route in Hamilton, Ont. A full military funeral was held Tuesday for Nathan Cirillo, the soldier who was shot to death in Ottawa last week. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

To his fellow soldiers, he was "loyal, tough, loving, true."

To his family, he was a fun, devoted son and brother, and both father and best friend to his son.

And to Canada, shaken by his frightening death on home soil, Cpl. Nathan Cirillo is the young soldier who has "joined the ranks of so many Canadians who have gone before him," said Prime Minister Stephen Harper, "having given all in the service of their country."

Thousands of mourners lined Hamilton's streets to say goodbye to the young reservist at the regimental funeral Tuesday, gathering as scores of Cirillo's military colleagues formed a procession alongside Cirillo's flag-draped casket, slowly marching toward Christ's Church Cathedral.

In an emotional service inside a church packed with family, fellow soldiers and dignitaries, Cirillo's family, grieving comrades and Harper paid tribute to the 24-year-old member of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, killed while standing guard at the National War Memorial last Wednesday.

"Loyal, tough, loving, true. His family knew it, his regiment knew it, and now Canadians know it. Rest in peace, Cpl. Cirillo. Your Argyll family will not forget," said Lt.-Col. Lawrence Hatfield, commanding officer of the Argylls.

Cirillo's cousin, Jenny Holland, spoke on behalf of Cirillo's family, many of whom had marched behind the casket during the procession. Holland shared stories about his childhood, recalling memories such as the time Cirillo brought a wagon to an Easter egg hunt "so he could get the most treats in the quickest time."

Cirillo's five-year-old son Marcus was his joy and focus, Holland said, and the boy "adored him so much."

"Not only was he his father, he was his friend," she added, as Cirillo's mother Katherine wiped tears from her eyes.

Canadian reservist Cpl. Nathan Cirillo in an undated photo taken from his Facebook page. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

In a tribute to Cirillo, Harper directly addressed the young man's grieving family, including Marcus, Katherine, Cirillo's stepfather Victor Briffa, and sisters Nicole and Natasha, expressing the hope that "time ease the searing pain of today."

That Cirillo's death occurred at Canada's national place of solemn remembrance was a "bitter and truly heart-wrenching irony," Harper said.

"These monuments remind us that freedom is never free. It has been earned by the soldier and then donated to all of us."

Before Cirillo's casket was taken into the church, the pallbearers soberly accompanied it through the streets, marching slowly in a sign of respect for the soldier.

At the front was Ryan Weinberger, a close friend who said the corporal would have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love.

"If Nathan were alive today, if he could sense any of this, I think that he would feel extremely touched and extremely thankful for the warm welcome we've got from so many Canadians," Weinberger said over the weekend.

Cirillo was killed by a single gunman, Michael Zehaf Bibeau, who fired on the ceremonial soldier then stormed onto Parliament Hill before he was fatally wounded.

The military funeral is intended to both honour the family of the officer who has died, and provide "reassurance to each other that we're hanging together," said Lt. Navy Gordon Laco early Tuesday, while preparing for the procession.

"The military is about violence when diplomacy fails. But it's also a close family and that closeness is what helps members of the military get through tough times" he said. "What's remarkable is, of course, this tough time is that it happened at home."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A soldier

"He never took the hard knocks or tough challenges personally. He just smiled and soldiered on, both in the regiment and in life."

Lt. Col. Lawrence Hatfield, commanding officer of the Argylls

A hero

"Our hearts are broken at his loss. But our spirits are grateful for his memory."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

A father

"Nathan may have looked like a big, tough man, but he was such a kid at heart. It was beautiful to see the joy he had while playing with his son."

Jenny Holland, cousin of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo

A large crowd lines James Street in Hamilton, Ont., as the casket of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo passes by. Thousands lined the streets to pay their respects on Tuesday. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On the street

A nation mourns

Thousands of people — some wearing Canadian flags and poppies, many who never met Cpl. Nathan Cirillo — came out to honour the young soldier.

Jan Gallo brought her granddaughter and the pair sat in Canadian flag chairs. "Not only are we here to honour Cpl. Cirillo, but also all of our armed services," she said.

Gillian Archer, 10, stood outside the First Ontario Centre to watch her father march by in the sombre funeral procession.

"My father is a soldier, so this is very important to me," said Gillian, who was there with her mother and two siblings.

Awaiting the procession Tuesday, Drew Tarvids, a Scarborough native and Hamilton resident, stood draped in a Canadian flag.

"I respect any man that has the guts to do what he did. Respect. That's what it's about," he said. "I was born and raised in this country, and I love it."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

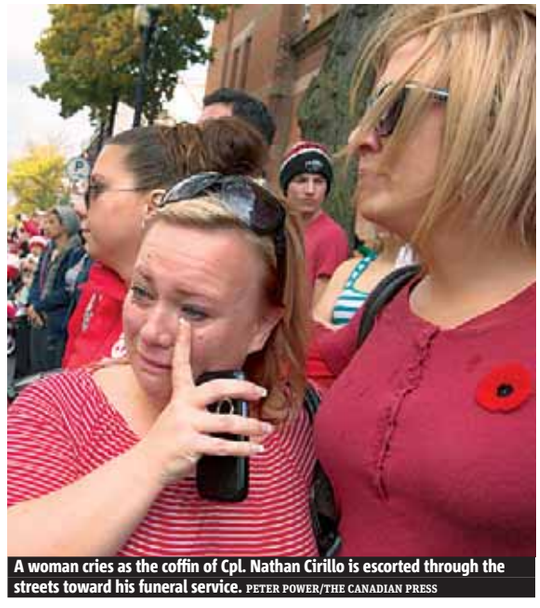
Marcus Cirillo outside the church, following the funeral service for his father, Cpl. Nathan Cirillo. PETER POWER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Words for Nathan

"Nathan, these words are for you. Your death is such a tragedy, but yet it's not in vain. Because of you, every Argyll and every man and woman who is honoured to wear the uniform of the Canadian Forces stands prouder and taller this day."

Major the Reverend Canon Rob Fead of the Anglican Church of Canada, who conducted the funeral service and serves as Chaplain to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo is carried into Christ's Church Cathedral. TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


A woman cries as the coffin of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo is escorted through the streets toward his funeral service. PETER POWER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CBC to investigate impropriety' toward

Continuing investigation. Internal memo to staff responds to Toronto Star article detailing allegations against Jian Ghomeshi

The CBC says it has learned of a "specific claim of impropriety" toward one of its employees that will be included in a "continuing investigation" at the public broadcasting corporation.

In an internal memo to staff, Roula Zaarour, CBC's vice-president of People and Culture, said the company learned of the claim late Monday evening through a story in the Toronto Star.

"We have always encouraged our employees to come forward with any concerns about their working environment," Zaarour said. "We are here to support you. That has been and will remain the case."

On Sunday, the Star published detailed allegations against former CBC Radio host Jian Ghomeshi. Three women quoted in the story claim that Ghomeshi physically attacked them without their consent during sexual encounters. A fourth woman, who worked at CBC, claimed Ghomeshi told her at work: "I want to hate f-- you."

In a Facebook post Sunday, Ghomeshi denied engaging in non-consensual sexual acts and claimed he is the subject of "harassment, vengeance and demonization." Ghomeshi is suing the CBC for $55 million.

None of these allegations has been tested in court.

Zaarour's memo to employees doesn't name Ghomeshi, nor specify which matter is being referred to, but states that the CBC will consider "any new information" that comes up.

"You will be reading and hearing a lot of different things, both in mainstream media and social media, over the coming days, weeks and months," the memo reads.

"You should be aware that we will generally be unable to respond or react to these, or even to correct factual inaccuracies, due to pending legal action." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Quoted

"We have always encouraged our employees to come forward with any concerns about their working environment."

Roula Zaarour, CBC's vice-president of people and culture
in a memo to CBC staff

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Radio host Jian Ghomeshi THE CANADIAN PRESS/CBC

Column

IN SILENCE, THERE WILL BE NO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
For Metro

We cannot hope for justice if we avoid the law.

Collectively, if we are ever going to change a legal system — or a society — where victim blaming in sexual assault cases is the norm, where successful prosecutions are devastatingly few, where women are made to feel that their sexuality is the problem, we need women to file police reports.

We need women to sit on the stand. We need individual women to replace statistics.

Three women — with suggestions that others may have come forward — anonymously allege Jian Ghomeshi brutally assaulted them during sex, crimes they have not reported to police. It’s understandable given how they are likely to be revictimized and treated with skepticism, understandable given how they are likely to be the targets of online attacks, and their reputations put at risk.

I am disgusted and frustrated at both of those likelihoods, but I cannot see how either will ever change if women (or men) remain shrouded and silent.

What if nine out of 10, instead of the current one in 10 women reported a sex crime?

Would that not force the kind of small, incremental changes in behaviour that have always led to greater cultural shifts?

With that kind of critical mass, with that number of names and faces put before us, who would hold onto the outdated belief that so many, many women are “asking for it”?

At base, how can we hope for a better system if we don’t participate in it?

Ghomeshi’s fame is the reason these allegations are being heard. What about the woman whose perpetrator is unknown — the date, friend, family member or stranger?

As for the women accusing Ghomeshi, who would name him but not themselves, I do hope they receive justice.

But I’m skeptical that it can be found where they have sought it, in media reports and public opinion. And I look forward to the day when it can be found in the court of law.

Strength in numbers

What if nine out of 10, instead of the current one in 10 women reported a sex crime? ... With that kind of critical mass, with that number of names and faces put before us, who would hold onto that outdated belief that so many, many women are ‘asking for it’?

Bourque apologizes for RCMP killings

Moncton. At sentencing hearing, killer calls self 'arrogant pissant' and says he's sorry to families of slain Mounties

Left to right: RCMP Chief Supt. Wayne Gallant, Chief Supt. Marlene Snowman and Insp. Costa Dimopoulos leave Moncton Law Courts after the second day of Justin Bourque's sentencing hearing in Moncton, N.B. on Tuesday.
ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justin Bourque apologized Tuesday to the families of the Mounties he shot in the north end of Moncton on June 4, saying in a quavering voice that the reasons he gave to police for killing three officers and wounding two others were the words of an "arrogant pissant."

Bourque, speaking at the conclusion of a two-day sentencing hearing at the Court of Queen's Bench in Moncton, acknowledged the pain the victims' families must have felt Monday after they watched his emotionless, rambling statement to police on June 6.

"It's the talk of some arrogant pissant, as if it was nothing to me," he said. "I want the families to know ... it does mean something to me."

In the three-hour, videotaped statement, Bourque appears relaxed as he leans back in a chair and explains that he wanted to encourage people to rise up against the "soldiers" that defend federal institutions and protect the rich from the poor.

The 24-year-old said his original plan was to set fire to several Moncton gas stations to harm the oil industry, but he ditched that idea because of problems with his bicycle.

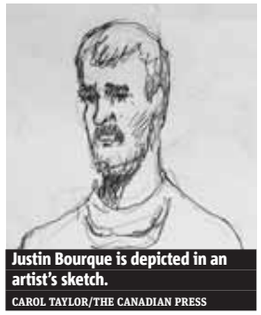
On Tuesday, Bourque said he had changed his mind about what he had said and done.

"Everything I said was from hatred," he said, referring to the police statement. "If you had asked me about this two days (after the shootings), there was nothing to be proud of."

Before he was led out of the courtroom, Bourque offered an apology. "Saying sorry or any apology is almost useless, but I am sorry," he said. "There's nothing else to say."

An agreed statement of facts previously filed with the court says Bourque's actions were both "planned and deliberate" when he used a Poly Technologies M305, 308-calibre semi-automatic rifle to kill constables Dave Ross, 32, Fabrice Gevaudan, 45, and Douglas Larche, 40. Constables Eric Dubois and Darlene Goguen were also wounded.

A 28-hour manhunt for Bourque left much of Moncton paralyzed until his arrest just after midnight on June 6.



Justin Bourque is depicted in an artist's sketch.
CAROL TAYLOR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bourque legally bought the gun on July 24, 2009, and had a valid firearms certificate for it, Crown attorney P.J. Veniot said Tuesday.

In August, Bourque pleaded guilty to three counts of first-degree murder and two counts of attempted murder.

At the very least, he faces a mandatory life sentence with no parole eligibility for 25 years for the first-degree murder charges.

Judge David Smith said he will sentence Bourque on Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harshest penalty since '62

No parole for at least 50 years

Crown attorney Cameron Gunn said the judge should use a 2011 amendment to the Criminal Code that allows judges to extend parole ineligibility in cases of multiple murders. In Bourque's case, Smith could decide that the 25-year ineligibility period for each of the three murder convictions should be imposed consecutively, which means Bourque wouldn't be allowed to apply for parole until he was 99 years old.

Defence lawyer David Lutz is asking for two consecutive parole ineligibility periods, or 50 years.

In either case, Bourque is facing the harshest sentence in Canada since the last executions in 1962.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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British spy came out of the cold to retire in B.C., records show

Constant gardener?
MI-5 agent outed Nazi sympathizers in WWII, and is believed to be inspiration for John Le Carre's spy Smiley

To his neighbours on Saltspring Island, B.C., he was an avid gardener and a history writer who lived a quiet life with his wife and children.

But to the British spy agency MI-5, he was a wartime agent who exposed hundreds of Nazi sympathizers and intercepted secrets meant for Gestapo eyes.

Records released by the British National Archives reveal the identity of the spy code-named Jack King as Eric Roberts, an unassuming banker who retired and came to Canada in 1956. He died on the island in 1972 at age 65.

Archive photo of Eric Roberts. COURTESY BRITISH NATIONAL ARCHIVE/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

"We're absolutely so happy that he's getting some recognition," his daughter, Christa McDonald, said Tuesday from her home in Qualicum Beach, B.C., after learning of the release of the documents.

Declassified documents posted online by the British archives on Friday say Roberts posed as a Gestapo officer, gathering information from Nazi sympathizers in Britain from 1942 to 1945 to ensure it did not reach the enemy. Among hundreds of pages of transcribed conversations involving Jack King is information meant to aid a German invasion of Britain and an appeal for a renewed blitz by German bombers.

It is believed that Roberts was one of the inspirations for spy writer John Le Carre's character George Smiley.

McDonald said her father and mother, Audrey, brought the family first to Hamilton, Ont., for several months before "we ended up on Saltspring" when she was 15.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A mammoth display

Russian Geographic Society staff carry the surprisingly well-preserved carcass of a young woolly mammoth to put it on display in Moscow on Tuesday. The 39,000-year-old Yuka, named for the Yukagir coastline where she was found four years ago in the Siberian permafrost, has well-preserved soft tissues and reddish fur. Even most of its brain is intact. IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Moon shot' project

Testing for cancer: Google working on a pill for that

Google's latest "moon shot" project: a pill that would test for cancer and other illnesses.

The company says it's working on a pill that contains microscopic particles that travel through the bloodstream to search for malignant cells. The particles could then report their findings to a sensor that you wear.

The project, still in the early stages, is the latest effort by Google's X division, which tries to apply new technology to solving big problems. The division's other "moon shot" efforts include self-driving cars and contact lenses that can measure glucose in tears.

Google says the microscopic particles can be magnetized and coated with antibodies that bind with specific proteins or cells associated with various maladies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Health. Texas nurse Vinson declared Ebola-free, hailed for efforts

Amber Vinson, a nurse who fuelled Ebola fears by flying to Cleveland after being infected by her dying patient in Dallas, is now virus-free, and was celebrated Tuesday by her caregivers as courageous and passionate before getting out of the hospital.

Dr. Bruce Ribner, an infectious disease expert who oversaw Vinson's recovery at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, said medical workers "deeply admire Ms. Vinson's care and courage in caring for patients with serious communicable diseases."

Vinson's trip home to join her bridesmaids for wedding preparations was one of several moves by doctors and nurses that may have exposed others in the United States. In Ohio alone, 163 people were still being monitored Tuesday because of contact or potential contact with Vinson in a bridal shop or as she was travelling.

Vinson, 29, was infected while caring for Thomas Eric Duncan, who died at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas on Oct. 8. She inserted catheters, drew blood, and dealt with Duncan's body fluids while wearing protective gear.

Amber Vinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Ribner said her doctors in Atlanta don't know how she got infected. They would not confirm any treatments that were used, however a spokeswoman from Emory University Hospital confirmed Ebola survivors Kent Brantley and Nancy Writebol donated blood plasma. Writebol's was not needed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gearing up for Ebola safety program

Sri Lankan health workers wear protective gear as they attend a preparedness program for Ebola at the Infectious Disease Hospital in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Tuesday. Airports in Asia have stepped up their defences, screening passengers travelling from affected countries, taking any with high temperatures in for observation and trying to keep in contact with them for the virus' 21 day incubation period. The WHO says more than 10,000 have been infected with Ebola, about half of which have died. ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australia

Visas suspended for travellers from West Africa

Australia is suspending entry visas for people from Ebola-affected countries in West Africa.

The government is cancelling and refusing non-permanent or temporary visas held by people who are not yet travelling, and new visa applications will not be processed. Permanent visa holders who have yet to arrive in Australia must submit to a 21 day quarantine.

The countries most severely hit by the current outbreak are Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Airport checks have identified more than 800 people who entered Australia from West Africa and could have been in Ebola-stricken areas. None have required hospital visits.

Immigration Minister Scott Morrison said on Monday that "The government's systems and processes are working to protect Australians." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'Naked Rambler'

U.K. man loses public-nudity human-rights bid

A British man who spurns clothes has lost a legal bid to have public nudity declared a human right.

Gough, a 55-year-old former Royal Marine nicknamed the "Naked Rambler," was arrested more than 30 times in Scotland between 2003 and 2012.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Halloween

Cops shut down noisy music-and-light display

It's no treat for a Southern California Halloween lover after police shut down his huge music-and-light show.

The Riverside Press-Enterprise says Kevin Judd used 12,000 lights to create the display at his friends' home. On Sunday, police responded to noise complaints and shut down the display. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lava threatens thousands of Hawaiians

A lava flow burns through thick vegetation and a fence in Pahoa, Hawaii. Molten rock from the flow is nearing a community where thousands of people live. Scientists with the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory conducted ground and air observations of the flow from the Kilauea Volcano and determined it was 510 metres upslope from Pa-hoa Village Road and 50 metres wide at the leading edge. PHOTO BY USGS VIA GETTY IMAGES

Kim Jong Un disappearance due to surgery

Surgery. North Korean leader's six-week absence a result of surgery to remove a cyst, says South Korea's spy agency

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, far right, seen here in an undated photo. KNS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

South Korea's spy agency said Tuesday it has solved the mystery of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's six-week public absence, which set off a frenzy of wild speculation around the world.

The National Intelligence Service told legislators that a foreign doctor operated on Kim in September or October to remove a cyst from his right ankle, according to Park Byeong-seok, an aide for opposition lawmaker Shin Kyung-min. The aide said the spy agency also told lawmakers in a closed-door briefing that the cyst could recur because of Kim's obesity, smoking and heavy public schedule. The agency identified Kim's condition as tarsal tunnel syndrome, caused by compression of a nerve, sometimes because of a cyst. Surgery is generally seen as a last resort after other treatments are unsuccessful. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE BATTLE BEGINS TONIGHT

French

Air Canada doesn't have to pay couple over language spat

An Ottawa couple who complained after not being served in French on Air Canada flights are not entitled to financial compensation from the airline, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The Federal Court originally said Lynda and Michel Thibodeau should receive $12,000, but that ruling was overturned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lowe's

Customer service being outsourced ... to robots

The robots are coming. Lowe's is testing whether new bots on wheels can improve its customer service.

Four robots are being tested at a hardware store owned by Lowe's Companies Inc. in San Jose, Calif.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

While it lost hockey...

CBC wins Olympic broadcast rights

CBC has secured the broadcast rights to the 2018 and 2020 Olympics.

CBC will partner with Bell Media and Rogers Media to carry the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea, and 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

CBC had the broadcast rights for this year's Sochi Olympics and will show the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 89.52¢ (+0.54¢)

TSX 14,624.25 (+155.25)

OIL $81.42 US (+$0.42)

GOLD $1,229.40 US (+$0.10)

Natural gas: $3.66 US (+$0.09)
Dow Jones: 17,005.75 (+187.81)

India slides to 114th in gender-gap ranking

Gender Gap Index. Annual reports finds despite a fast-developing economy, women in India still face inequality

Indian women still face some of the world's worst inequality in access to health care, education and work, despite years of rapid economic growth, according to a survey of 142 nations released Tuesday.

The annual Gender Gap Index by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum showed India falling to 114th place, after being ranked 101st out of the 136 countries surveyed last year. That puts India below other fast-developing nations including South Africa, ranked 18th, China at 87 and Brazil at 71.

"Achieving gender equality is obviously necessary for economic reasons," Klaus Schwab, WEF founder and executive chairman, said in a statement.

"Only those economies who have full access to all their talent will remain competitive and will prosper."

Overall, the report said gender equality is improving worldwide, with 105 countries becoming more equal since the forum launched the index in 2006 and health and education access being the most egalitarian across the globe.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Schoolgirls play at a government school in Hyderabad, India, on Tuesday. Indian women still face some of the world's worst inequality, according to the latest annual Gender Gap Index. MAHESH KUMAR A.

Usual suspects

The index ranks countries based on health, access to education, economic opportunity and political participation.

- Canada ranked 19th, one place above the United States.
- Nordic nations led the world with Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark occupying the top five spots.
- Yemen, Pakistan and Chad remained at the bottom of the list.

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I'M NOT A SPORTS FAN, BUT I PLAY ONE ON BAD HAIR DAYS

GUEST COLUMN

Kate Carraway
metronews.ca

I'm the kind of self-regarding loser who likes monograms and necklace charms in the shape of my initials. It follows that I have and love a Kansas City — KC! That's me! — baseball cap, in royal blue.

I don't have that cap — or my (genuinely!) vintage Blue Jays cap, or my few other items of baseball, basketball and hockey-related apparel — because I like sports. I don't. I almost don't watch sports at all, and I don't understand them, at all.

My favourite but possibly worst joke is when I ask someone what they're doing, and when they say, "watching the game," I respond, "I've seen 'the game'!" I do know how dumb and unfunny it is, yes, but it's really funny to me, because to a non-sports-fan, every game could be every other game. Every dunk could be every other dunk, or home run, or goal, or whatever. However, I've been wearing my Kansas City cap a lot, lately, because I haven't had a haircut in 1,000 years. And because my bad hair has coincided with Kansas City improbably sliding into a World Series, I'm being asked a lot about "my" team. Like when a preteen asked me who my favourite player was (no idea). Or when a baseball fan who'd missed a game asked me in a coffee lineup if I knew what the score was the night before (um).

I never lie, even though telling strangers that my hat indicates my own name-related narcissism more than it does any kind of fandom is straight-up embarrassing, but being accidentally — and temporarily, I assume, as at some point the World Series ends — included in the sphere of sports has been, if not exactly fun in the usual way, communally exciting, like an election or a blackout or an elementary school's annual carnival night. I'm not in these situations, where strangers are aligned by some external event or happenstance, very often.

I like it, because it's based on so little. I mean, I don't know anything about baseball, but I'm in, and the kind of positive inclusivity that doesn't care about anything other than intention-via-ball-cap has otherwise disappeared from my life.

Most of my day — too much — is spent in front of a computer, working alone or engaged in the self-selecting communities of friends, colleagues, and my social-media followers and followees.

My bright-blue Kansas City cap, though, is like an instant all-access pass to the kind of community that, I've found out, actually exists everywhere all the time (coffee lineups, classrooms, sidewalks), in real life, dependent on no details of lifestyle or demographic, just opt-in fandom. I still don't care about sports — at all — but I do like being a fan.

Making the team

The kind of positive inclusivity that doesn't care about anything other than intention-via-ball-cap has otherwise disappeared from my life.

Paul Sullivan returns with Just Sayin' Nov. 12

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Fun police score big

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

SCREEN GRAB

It's a safe assumption that you're going to find Kevin Judd's fantastic lip-synching, 12,000-light Halloween house just as alluring as we do. Alas, the bad news is that house is far away in Riverside, Calif. Actually, there's worse news. The house isn't even in Riverside any more. Police shut down the display after too many people enjoyed it too much, tying up that precious traffic flow. #RIPSingingHalloweenHouse. You're a spooky ghost now. (California Through My Lens/YouTube)

Comments

RE: Stephen Kimber's column In the wake of the Parliament Hill Shooting, We Must Remain Calm and Canadian, published online Oct. 27. 2014

While perhaps some of you may consider (Michael Zehaf Bibeau's and Martin Couture-Rouleau's) acts 'terrorist,' I know I and my friends & most of my family, consider them criminal acts. Their actions haven't terrorized us, nor will we let the actions of a few criminals change how we feel about the vast majority of the people in our country, no matter what religious observances they choose to follow. **More, posted to metronews.ca**

metro AR

SEE THE NEWS COME ALIVE

In this issue, you can find AR enhancements on page 35 in Sports.

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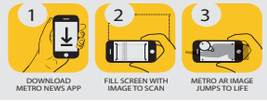

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Music

Lil Wayne GETTY IMAGES FILE

Lil Wayne career-closing album delayed again

The fifth installment of Lil Wayne's Carter series — which the hip-hop giant has said would be the album that caps his career — has been delayed again.

Tha Carter V, which was initially due out in May, was nowhere to be found on Tuesday, which was the updated release date.

The president of his Young Money label was quoted by hip-hop blogger Karen Civil as saying that no new release date has been set.

The New Orleans rapper — whose given name is Dwayne Michael Carter, Jr. — has released four Carter albums that have been among his most acclaimed works. He was the most-nominated artist at the 2009 Grammys for his Tha Carter III. The 32-year-old has repeatedly said that Tha Carter V will be his last album as he wants to spend more time with his four children. AFP

Goodbye dating, hello pop

Music. Taylor Swift grows up and turns on a new sound

Taylor Swift performs at the iHeartRadio Music Festival on Sept. 19 in Las Vegas. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES FOR IHEARTMEDIA

When Taylor Swift released the Grammy-winning, banjo-tinged Mean in 2010, haters fired shots at the then-20-year-old.

Four years later, Swift says she's grown and was able to write her new single Shake It Off about others dissing her from a new perspective.

"We are all getting our hearts broken, being built up, being let down, feeling disappointed, feeling joy, feeling all these emotions, but what I've noticed is that even when it's the same kind of emotion that I'm feeling, I process it and feel it differently now than I used to," she said in an interview last week. "And I think that's a factor of growing up, but I'm pretty proud of the way it's gone."

All signs point to growth as Swift releases her fifth album, 1989. She's left behind her country roots to go full-blown pop, she's moved to New York City, and she hasn't really thought about dating in nearly two years.

"I think it's a beautiful thing to be in love. If you're in a good relationship, that's wonderful, but you are factoring someone else's feelings, schedule, opinion and priorities into your own feelings, schedule, thoughts, opinions, priorities. And in the last year and a half, that just hasn't been something that I've been interested in," she said.

Swift, 24, began dabbling in pop when she released Red in 2012, which featured the pop smashes We Are Never Getting Back Together and I Knew You Were Trouble. Max Martin, who co-produced those songs with Shellbeck, is the executive producer behind 1989 and has created a slew of pop anthems, from Britney Spears' ... Baby One More Time to Kelly Clarkson's Since U Been Gone.

"I found myself wanting so badly to explore this new territory, but I felt absolutely terrified to go too far in that direction because I thought people would be angry," Swift said about going pop.

"I think that the country community wasn't surprised that I made a pop album; I think they were surprised when I was honest about it."

It's a bold move for Swift, who moved to Nashville as a teen to pursue her singing career. Her first single was called Tim McGraw.

"We've had a great relationship with 2,000 country radio stations ... and so talking it through, she still welcomes their support," said Scott Borchetta, the president and CEO of Swift's longtime label home, Big Machine Records. "If the moment ever strikes her again and she decides, 'You know what, the music I'm making now is country,' I think she'll be welcomed back with open arms."

Swift says she's not sure she will record country music again — not because she doesn't want to, but because it's too early to tell.

"If I wanted to make Red 2.0 I could have done it, but I ... wanted the focus to be on the sound of the record rather than everyone dissecting each lyric to see who these songs are about," she said.

1989 is pure pop fun, featuring hook-heavy jams — from anthemic moments like Shake It Off and Bad Blood to calmer grooves like Clean, featuring Imogen Heap. It's also a sound that resonates with Swift's fans, if a recent secret session at her apartment in New York City was any indication.

The cover of 1989, the latest release by Taylor Swift. BIG MACHINE RECORDS

Swift invited 89 fans to her pad in Tribeca to preview 1989. The feverish group of girls and boys (and moms) immediately jumped to the floor to sit on pillows as Swift sat in front of them. One girl couldn't stop shaking.

"I'm a little worried about the shaking," Swift said to the blonde teen, and then gave her a high-five to calm her nerves.

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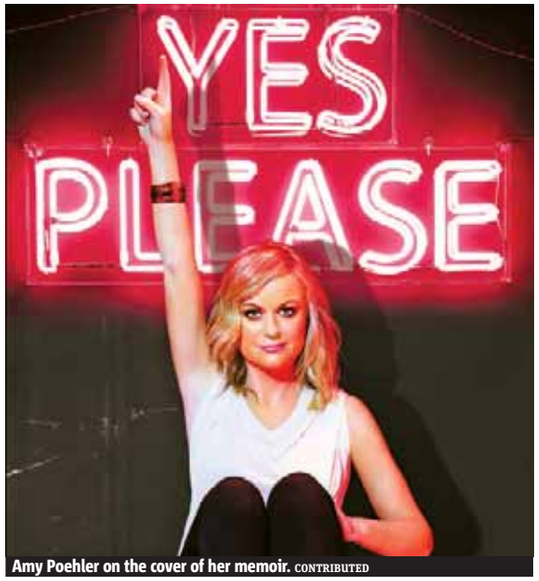
Poehler memoir is part ask Amy, part racy fun

Books. Amy Poehler talks about her divorce, drugs and more

EMILY LAURENCE
Metro in New York City



Amy Poehler on the cover of her memoir. CONTRIBUTED

Amy Poehler's memoir Yes Please comes out this week and early buzz is promising it will be just as successful as Tina Fey's Bossypants and Mindy Kaling's Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? Poehler's glossy-paged hardback details everything from her early days of comedy to her Saturday Night Live career, but it also has the juicy stuff, like sex advice and details on her divorce. Here, we share some of the major talking points.

Divorce: Maybe it's because celebrities get divorced all the time, but we tend to think it isn't as bad for them as it is for us civilians. Poehler writes lovingly about her ex-husband Will Arnett and honestly about their divorce: It sucked. "When you are a person going through a divorce you feel incredibly alone, yet you are constantly reminded by society of how frequently divorce happens and how common it has become," she writes. "You aren't allowed to feel special, but no one understands the specific ways you are in pain." Some life experiences don't need a punchline.

Drugs: Poehler doesn't hide the fact that she's said "yes, please" to many drugs. She chronicles how her father was a happy pot dealer and how she experimented with cocaine, mushrooms and ecstasy. "Cocaine is terrific if you want to hang out with people you don't know and play ping-pong all night. It's bad for almost everything else," she reveals.

Getting older: Apparently, entering your 40s is pretty awesome: "Gone are the days (hopefully) when you take everything personally and internalize everyone's behaviour. You get better at knowing what you want and need," Poehler writes.

Losing big awards: Poehler has won a Golden Globe and MTV Movie Award. But what's it like when the camera pans to you not winning? Poehler gets honest about how actors that say they don't care are lying. "You spend weeks thinking about how it doesn't matter and it's all just an honour and then seconds before the name of the winner is announced everything inside you screams ... 'GIMME THAT PUDDING!!' Then comes the adrenaline dump, followed by shame." It's so much easier not being famous.

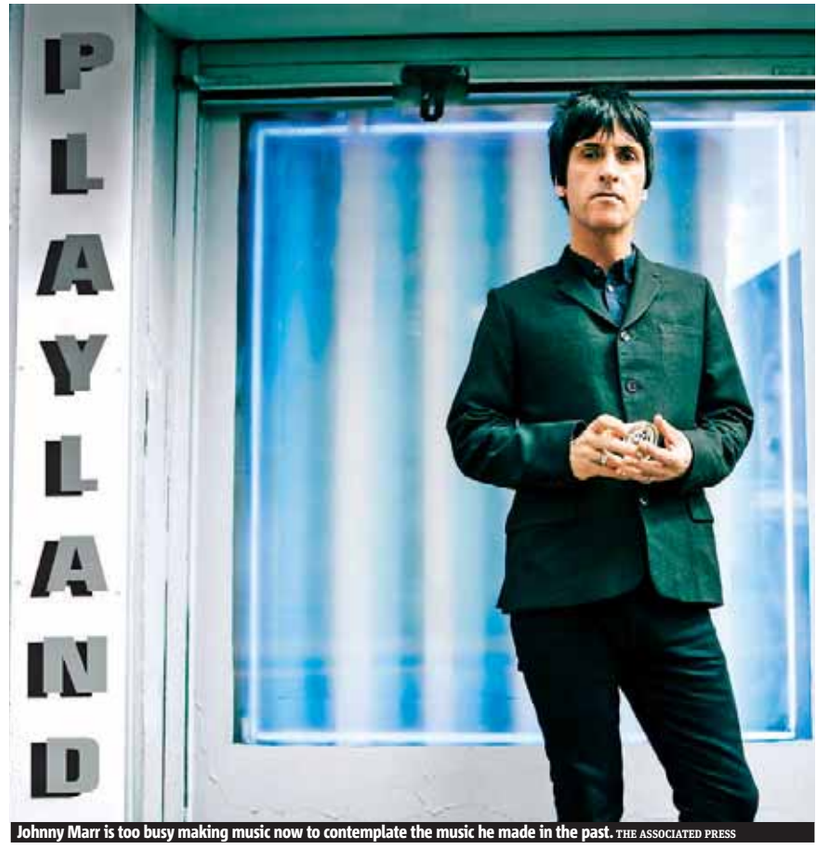
Career counselling: Poehler talks about how important it is to not put your career first: "Your career won't take care of you ... It will openly flirt with other people while you're around," she writes. She compares a career to a bad boyfriend. Poehler says the key to being happy with your career is caring about your work, not the result. "You have to care about how good you are and how good you feel, but not how good people think you are or how good people think you look," she writes.

Book signing

Amy Poehler will appear at Indigo Bay & Bloor, 55 Bloor St. W., on Thursday at 7 p.m. She'll take questions from Orphan Black star Tatiana Maslany before signing copies of Yes Please.

Johnny Marr is looking forward

Music. Former Smiths guitar hero settles into the role of rock frontman on Playland



Johnny Marr is too busy making music now to contemplate the music he made in the past. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fittingly for the man who co-wrote How Soon Is Now, Johnny Marr doesn't believe in living in the past.

The former guitarist for The Smiths has just released his second solo album, Playland, a followup to his well-received The Messenger in 2013. Both offer robust, richly textured guitar rock — the latest of Marr's many musical modes.

Since The Smiths split in 1987 — leaving Marr, then 23, already a guitar hero — he has worked with electronic outfit The The, joined post-punk supergroup Electronic, fronted Johnny Marr and the Healers, collaborated with indie rockers Modest Mouse and contributed to the soundtracks for Inception and The Amazing Spider-Man 2.

He rarely seems to rest, much less rest on his laurels.

"The idea of a musician sitting around with a bottle of wine listening to his old recordings seems really a somewhat tragic waste of time to me," Marr said over the phone from a stop on his British tour.

He's keeping up a brisk pace of performances, including almost 30 dates in the U.S. and Canada starting Nov. 9.

Marr, 50, knows he will never escape the shadow of The Smiths, the 1980s band that melded his jagged guitar and the sardonic-poetic lyrics of singer Morrissey into the defining sound for indie-loving introverts around the world.

No musical decline

"I think it's corny and somewhat arrogant to think that your time was better." Johnny Marr

Short-lived but long-admired, the band is among 15 nominees this year for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame — though Marr dismisses the idea of induction as about as likely as a Smiths reunion. In other words, don't hold your breath.

And he has no truck with aging rockers who lament the decline of popular music. "I think it's corny and somewhat arrogant to think that your time was better," Marr said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Video

OK Go's video for I Won't Let You Down. YOUTUBE

New OK Go video is the definition of awesomeness

OK Go uploaded their newest how-the-heck-did-they-do-that music video without warning this week. It's kinda formulaic though. Want to know the formula? Drone camera + Esther Williams-style choreography + approximately 2,000 Honda UNI-CUBs + umbrellas that look like dots in an LED screen when seen from above when the drone ascends into the clouds = another video that's nothing short of a masterpiece from OK Go. So yeah, totally formulaic. But then it's OK to be formulaic when your formula is pure awesomeness. Oh, and as always, the song (I Won't Let You Down) is pretty catchy, too. NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

Streaming. Tidal offers audiophiles hi-def sound and curated content

Tidal is a new premium music streaming service with an equally premium subscription fee, but one that promises "lossless" quality playback.

The service, which goes live this week in the U.S. and the U.K., will cost users $19.99 US a month. That's pretty much double what most streaming services, from Spotify to Rdio, charge.

However Tidal believes that the promise of 16-bit files at 1411 kbps will be enough to snag serious audiophiles who currently turn their noses up at and ears off to digital music because of its tiny compressed sound.

And to highlight this focus on music quality, Tidal has signed deals with a number of the world's top hi-fi makers, including Denon and Harman.

As well as a 25-million-track catalogue, those who sign up to the service will also be able to access music videos (75,000 and counting) and editorial content. Tidal has an editorial department charged with creating features on musical genres, doing interviews with emerging artists and generally finding other ways to engage with users.

Paying for quality

$19.99

Tidal's streaming service will cost users $19.99 US a month.

Like Beats, it will help subscribers discover new music via pre-created playlists and via content curated by music fans and experts rather than just algorithms. New playlists are easy to create and edit and can be saved for offline listening at the same high-quality levels.

Tidal isn't the only company offering higher definition music streaming. Deezer has also launched a premium service — Elite — in partnership with Sonos in the US and with Bose in parts of Europe.

However, unlike its competitors, Tidal won't be offering a cheaper, low-quality streaming service, nor will it be offering an ad-supported free tier.

The service is available as an app for iPhone, iPad and Android and on the desktop and on networked and connected hi-fi systems. AFP

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Double-rebound is over for JLaw and Chris Martin

So, Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Martin? Not so much dating anymore, at least not according to E! News. I mean, you know what they say about rebound relationships, right? And technically this one was a double-rebound, what with Martin recently being consciously uncoupled from Gwyneth Paltrow and the corporate offices of Goop Enterprises, plus Lawrence splitting (again) from adorable X-Men co-star Nicholas Hoult. Now then, to the details: "Jen is the one who broke it off with Chris," a source with a knack for stating the obvious tells People magazine.

Jennifer Lawrence GETTY IMAGES

Papa Robbie Williams overshares during son's birth

In this weird new Internet age, we all live in public. Take, for instance, British pop star Robbie Williams, who kept fans and Twitter followers updated regularly as his wife, Ayda Field, gave birth to their second child earlier this week. He even managed to get video of her water breaking. Fun times!

"I need you to know I'm doing great," Williams says in one video. Judging by the photos, he was the only one. But the baby, a boy, did eventually make an appearance, and all is well. "I've never been more in love and I've never been more proud of my wife," Williams said.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Women are from Venus and Gene Simmons is from prehistory

I thought it had been a while since we'd had an installment of Gene Simmons: Quote Machine, but fear not! The Kiss frontman is back with a real doozy. He recently popped up on Fox News' Trending with Andrea Tantaros, and this time he's speaking directly to the ladies in the audience. "Life is not a straight line and I'm here to say women think differently than men. Men must work for a living. Women have the option of becoming the housewife, which is respectable and wonderful, but what happens when the man runs away?" Simmons opines. "Don't depend on them. Why should you? They don't depend on you for anything. The less you depend on a man for emotional and financial support, the better off you'll be." So let's all stop depending on each other and start making that money, right? Sun's out, tongues out, y'all.

That was a close shave! Dude looks like Kevin Smith without a beard

Kevin Smith shaved his beard. I repeat, Kevin Smith shaved his beard. He ditched the iconic facial fur for a shot in his new film, Yoga Hosers. Now, I'm not suggesting it's news anytime the Clerks director does anything hygiene-related, but the results here are pretty astounding. "Look at this goofy spaz," Smith says in the post revealing the change. Look at him, indeed.

Kevin Smith TWITTER

How-to

Plan a last-minute trip

1. A travel agent can really come through with ideas and/or deals. Ask around if you don't have one.
2. Any friends living overseas you'd like to visit? Relatives? That work colleague who moved to Tokyo might love to see you — and would be a great tour guide.
3. Think off-season and off-the-beaten track; both will be less expensive and perhaps a bit more of an adventure. There are far worse places to be than Venice in November.
4. Research the weather to avoid rainy seasons, overpowering heat or other acts of God.
5. Avoid rationalizing overspending. Set and stick to a budget.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Trend

The end of 'all work and no play'

Adding a few personal days to your work trip is becoming the norm for Canadian business travellers. Corporate travel heavyweight Vision Travel is calling this trend the Bleisure market, citing a recent Google Travel study that found that more than half of U.S. business people extend work trips to relax, soak up the culture of the destination or bond with colleagues at a hockey game. The boss doesn't mind because his extra costs are minimal and he gets a happier employee. Win-win. TEXT: DOUG WALLACE, PHOTO: VISION TRAVEL

New

Why cycle when you can e-bike?

Butterfield & Robinson has announced a new five-night electric-bike tour through Switzerland from Lausanne to Interlaken for next summer. The daily routes are anywhere from 40 to 50 kilometres, but the Scott E-Venture bikes make this all quite doable, not to mention easy on the quadriceps. The tour includes all hotels (four-star) and meals (including wine), a guide and support van, maps and accessories, events and tours, plus all baggage transportation. From $7,000. Visit Butterfield.com.

TEXT: DOUG WALLACE, PHOTO: SWISS TOURISM

Get your freak on. Cities to spook you this Halloween

Edinburgh, New Orleans and Rajasthan have been identified as among the most haunting, scariest destinations in the world for getting your chill on for Halloween. The list, curated by Cheapflights.com, shines the spotlight on cities that offer the best "creepy tours around the world," deliciously frightful itineraries that take visitors through cemeteries, prisons, bridges and forts, purportedly haunted by unhappy spirits and shadowy figures of the dead. New Orleans is one of the best places to get your spook on. A New Orleans Ghost Tour presents a striking contrast to the lively music and colour associated with the city, by showing visitors its darker, more sinister side, namely via Madame LaLaurie, a 17th-century socialite known for the brutal torture tactics she used on slaves. The tour also sheds light on the city's vampire past. AFP

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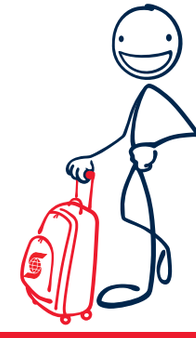

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There's no shortage of ways to spend your money in Stockholm, one of Europe's most expensive cities. A dinner or even just a drink can set you back more than you expected. Luckily, the Swedish capital is an outdoorsy place, meaning there's also a lot of stuff you can do for free.

PHOTOS AND TEXT: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 Free things to do in Stockholm

The Old Town

A stroll along the narrow alleys winding through Stockholm's Old Town offers a glimpse into the city's past. Or rather, a cleaned-up version of its past, without the foul stench of waste that filled the medieval core before modern-day plumbing. Old Town today is so tidily picturesque it almost has a Disneyland feel. Buildings from the 17th century stand askew, worn by time but meticulously repaired and repainted in soft shades of yellow and rose.

Subway art

If you're riding the subway anyway ($5 for a single fare or $15 for a day pass), you can enjoy what Stockholm tourism officials call the "world's longest art exhibition" for free. Nearly all of the 100 stations on Stockholm's three subway lines are decorated with murals, mosaics, sculptures or art installations. Highlights include the historic artifacts at Kungstradgarden (Blue line) and Siri Derkert's feminist wall paintings at Ostermalmstorg (Red line).

Downtown swimming

In Stockholm, a city spread out over more than a dozen islands at the intersection of Lake Malaren and the Baltic Sea, some locals will tell you the water is clean enough to drink. That may be a stretch. You never see anyone cupping their hand for a refreshing swig from the city's many canals and waterways. However, in warm weather you do see people go for a swim just about everywhere there's access to water. There are more than 30 public bathing spots in Stockholm — from the rocks at Fredhall to the small sandy beach at Langholmen. Don't be surprised to find daring youths jump into the waters right in front of City Hall.

Monteliusvagen

There are places in the world where even an unskilled photographer can easily take a picture worthy of being framed and admired. Monteliusvagen is one of those places. This walking path on the cliffs over the northern shore of the Sodermalm district offers a breathtaking view of Stockholm's skyline. The Riddarfjarden bay acts like a mirror, reflecting the elegant facades of Old Town's waterfront palaces and the massive bell tower of the castle-like City Hall, home of the annual Nobel Prize banquet.

Woodland Cemetery

This cemetery is truly original. Skogskyrkogarden, a woodland cemetery on the southern edge of Stockholm, was created between 1917 and 1920 and became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1994. Here the departed rest in natural surroundings, modest headstones marking their graves in imperfect rows amid the pine trees. The idea behind the cemetery, designed by Gunnar Asplund and Sigurd Lewerentz, was to blend architecture with nature, altering the landscape as little as possible.

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The sky's the limit in Scottsdale

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PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The enormous fan-like propeller behind the passenger whirs, then begins to howl as the pilot hits the accelerator.

The wheels bump along the gravelly desert and a small jolt tugs on the safety belts as the chute billows into the sky.

A few seconds later, the strange-looking machine lifts off the ground, floating away like a dandelion spore catching the wind. The takeoff of a powerchute is quick, exhilarating, unlike anything you've ever experienced. The actual flight, even better.

"It's the closest thing to being a bird that you can imagine," said Randy Long of Arizona Powerchutes.

OK, we know what you're thinking now: What's a powerchute?

Picture a dune buggy with a massive parachute attached to the back of it, sort of a cross between something the Wright Brothers might have designed and that flying machine from the Mad Max movies.

The front end looks a little like a three-wheeled stroller, the seats set atop an angled frame behind a fat rubber wheel. The two back wheels splay out for support under the engine and a massive propeller that looks a little like an oversize house fan behind the passenger. Brackets rise up and out to the sides to support the lines that attach to the chute, which is essentially a 40-foot version of what skydivers use. Turning is controlled by foot levers that pull on the tension cords attached to the chute.

Yes, it's a little odd-looking.

And, yes, it provides a flying experience unlike any other.

"I had been on a balloon tour before and it reminds me of that in some ways with the setup and you're out there at sunrise," said Laura McMurchie of Scottsdale. "But once you're in the air, it's a little more liberating than being in the balloon with 10 other people. It's just you and the pilot and they do everything from skimming, where you're low to the ground and skimming the terrain basically, and then they go up quite high in that contraption."

Arizona Powerchute participants can combine powerchuting with a hotel stay and Celestial Picnic from Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North.

Arizona Powerchutes, which also offers hot balloon rides, has a 30-minute introductory flight for $289 per person, and has training packages available.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bucket list

The Whitsunday Islands, Australia

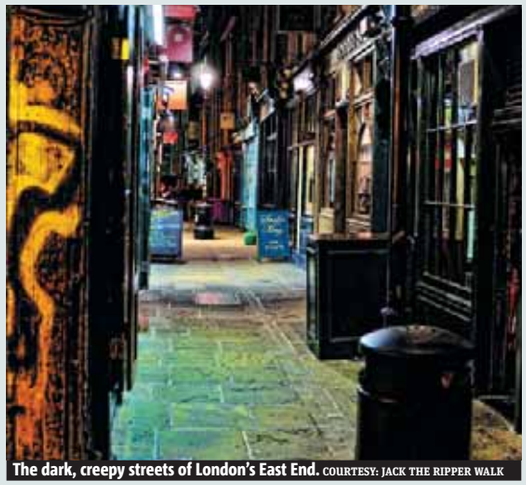
You owe it to yourself to experience the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, and by far the best place to do that is the Whitsundays. This group of 74 islands three-quarters of the way up the east coast of Australia in Queensland is one of the most popular yachting spots in the southern hemisphere — and one of the most romantic. Drink it all in at a luxury villa on the hub of Hamilton Island, at a quiet resort on one of the eight islands that accommodate them, or while camping and kayaking your way through the Ngaro Sea Trail Great Walk. Air-, water- and land-based tours are plentiful. Visit TourismWhitsundays.com.au.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

England

Walk the bloody trail of Jack the Ripper

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca



The dark, creepy streets of London's East End. COURTESY: JACK THE RIPPER WALK

Our guide Simon Law warned the group that descriptions of the killings would be gruesome. But it had been six months since someone had fainted on him. Thus began my Jack the Ripper walking tour through the dark corners of the Old City of London, and the city's notorious East End.

The tour is a fascinating snapshot of London during a time that has been immortalized through the writings of famous authors like Charles Dickens and Arthur Conan Doyle. At the end of the Victorian era, the gritty and impoverished East End of London, cloaked in coal smog from rapid industrialization, is juxtaposed against images of the opulent excesses of the wealthy. Walking the narrow streets, Simon painted a picture of darkness and gloom. About 80,000 women, many of whom had lost their husbands and fallen on hard times, had turned to prostitution. The only brief escape was to turn to drink, which in those days meant cheap gin. The highest echelons of society would flit across the divide from the City of London to entertain themselves in this den of debauchery.

Against this backdrop in 1888, Jack the Ripper murdered five prostitutes. Each of them was gutted and brutally dissected. He crept in the shadows, leaving dead bodies and no clues. The police at the time were confounded, narrowing their investigation to 200 suspects — including the Free Masons, the Queen's surgeon and the Prince of Wales. Even though there have been many theories (the most recent published last month claimed that the Ripper was a Polish émigré named Aaron Kosminski) there is still no definitive answer.

Chuck Dryer has taken the tour four times.

"It's one of the few famous unsolved mysteries in the world. It's macabre. It's irresistible," he says.

London Walks' Jack the Ripper tour starts at the Tower Hill tube station and ends in front of the Christ Church, Spitalfields.

Post-Halloween Snack. Creamy Kiss Dip & Apples

This recipe makes 12 bars. EMILY RICHARDS

This is a twist on everyone's favourite caramel apples. But you just dunk wedges into the dip and enjoy.

You can also refrigerate the dip until it's cold and use it as a cake filling or icing for cupcakes.

1. Place caramels and kisses in saucepan with cream and melt over low heat. Stirring occasionally, melt mixture until smooth.

2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Slowly add kiss and caramel mixture into cream cheese while beating until smooth. Beat in vanilla. Serve with apple or pear wedges, strawberries or cookies.

EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

- 12 caramels, unwrapped
- 10 Halloween kisses, unwrapped
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) 5% light cream
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) light cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) vanilla
- 4 apples, cored and cut into wedges

Take a dip on the dark side

Graveyard Goop. This dish is ideal for little goblins or big zombies who will Monster Mash at your get-together

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Have fun this Halloween and create a dip that is ghoulishly delicious.

Black beans are made into a creamy dip with a hint of cumin and garlic to keep away any truly scary monsters.

Buttering the flour tortillas will give your tortilla dipping tombstones an extra special taste.

Enjoy this with the kids before they go out for their treats and it will certainly put them in the mood to have a ghoulish time.

1. In a food processor, purée the black beans until fairly smooth. Add cream cheese, onions and cream, and purée until smooth. Pulse in cheese, garlic and cumin until combined. Spread into 9 or 10 inch (23 or 25 cm) pie plate and sprinkle olives in centre. Sprinkle lettuce around edges. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, cut out ghostly shapes like tombstones, cats and pumpkins out of flour tortillas. Brush with butter and place on baking sheet. Bake in 400 F (200 C) oven for about 8 minutes or until just golden. Let cool completely.

3. Place some of the toasted tortillas into the dip to create a graveyard scene and serve remaining tortillas alongside.

Ingredients

- 1 can (19 oz/540 ml) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) finely diced onions
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) 5% cream
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) ground cumin
- 1 can (200 ml) ripe sliced olives, drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) shredded romaine lettuce or baby spinach
- 4 small whole grain tortillas
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) butter, melted

FLASH FOOD

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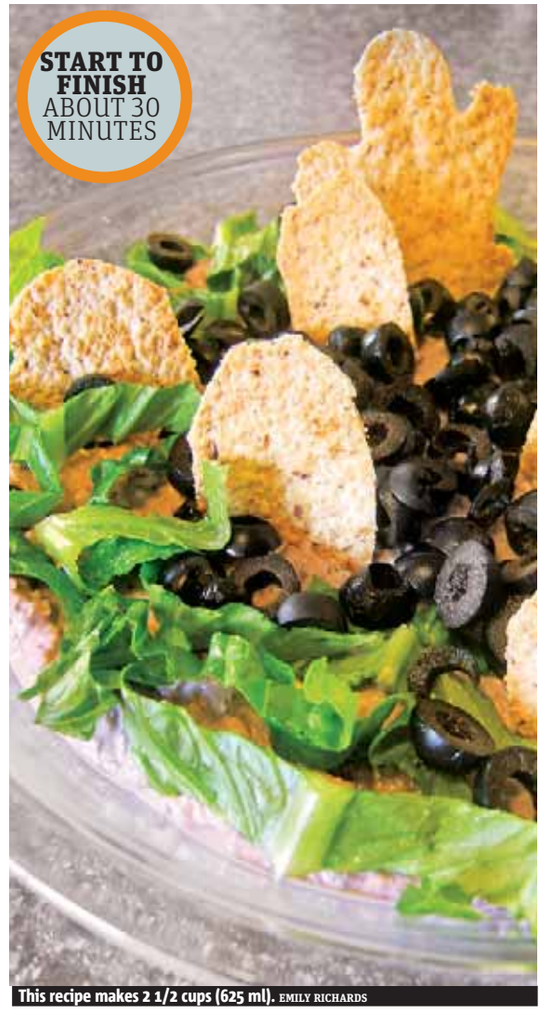


This recipe makes 2 1/2 cups (625 ml). EMILY RICHARDS

Ooey gooey before oogie boogie

This recipe serves six. NEWS CANADA

Before your little ones head out for Halloween on Friday, ensure they are full with these Easy, Breezy and Cheesy Quesadillas.

1. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion and peppers, stirring for 4 to 8 minutes until vegetables are tender and lightly browned. Remove vegetables from pan and set aside.

2. Lightly coat one side of a tortilla with canola oil and place oil side down in a skillet over medium heat. Add 2/3 cup of the Taco Nacho cheese evenly on the tortilla, followed by 1/3 of the vegetable mixture. Next, layer 2/3 cup of Mozzarellissima cheese evenly over top of the vegetables. Place a second tortilla on top and brush lightly with oil.

3. Cook quesadilla for 4 to 6 minutes, flipping once, until cheese is melted and tortillas are lightly browned. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

4. Cut each quesadilla into eight pieces, and serve warm with sour cream and salsa.

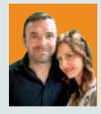
NEWS CANADA/ FB.COM/SAPUTO.CA

Ingredients

- 1 onion, diced
- 1 red pepper, seeded and diced
- 1 green pepper, seeded and diced
- 6 tortillas, medium-sized
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil
- 4 cups (1,000 ml) Saputo Mozzarellissima or Taco Nacho shredded cheese
- Sour cream and salsa, optional

Food around the world

Spain (vegan rating: 8/10)



MEAT AND VEG
meatandvegontheroad.tumblr.com
Photos: Suzi Staheli
Words: Eoin Weldon

Meat, a contented carnivorous writer, documents his and his vegan fiancée Veg's dietary journey as they travel and munch their way across four continents.

Veg: In Barcelona, we hit the supermarkets of our Gracia neighbourhood. Veg created a feast. A red grapefruit half and papaya slices occupied one side of the plate while an avocado half and hummus-topped baguette slices sat on the other. Complementing that was a salad containing pine nuts, vegetables, chickpeas and vegan chorizo.

Meat: I made my version of the Spanish omelette. A pan-fried and grilled potato omelette was spiced up with pieces of oily chili chorizo. On the side were avocado, baguette slices and a portion of Veg's surprisingly tasty salad. It was weird to pair vegan and real chorizo but it didn't taint the meal in anyway. We agreed it was nice to be in tasty, healthy Europe.

When your group hasn't got the goods

Career. Take your team from chaotic cluster to competent co-worker combination

LAUREN MARINIGH
TalentEgg.ca

Everyone has been there, whether it's at school or at work: stuck on a team that doesn't work well together.

Being on a team isn't always the easiest task, especially if you enjoy working independently and relying on your own skills.

However, teamwork is a must-have career asset — there are few jobs that allow you to work completely outside of a team focus. How can you get over your differences, power through tasks and come out on top as a team? Here's how to make sure you're ready to succeed the next time teamwork comes your way.

Be reliable

Whether you're a leader or a follower, your contributions to a team depend on your reliability.

This is a top asset in your independent work as well, but it matters even more when other people are depending on you.

No one on your team will enjoy working with you if you demonstrate that you are not reliable. If you let people down, you'll negatively impact morale, which can make it harder for others to get work done.

Communicate

Communication is key to success in a team environment. In order for a team to function it is crucial for team members to contribute their ideas, thoughts, and opinions while maintaining respect for others and for the work of the team.

Whether it's due to personal dynamics or a preference for solitary work, avoiding communication can end in disaster for all members of the team. Remember that it is important to keep your communications positive and professional. When you have something to say that may not get a favourable reception, try to offer constructive criticism and bring a solution to the table.

Use your strengths

Everyone has their own set of unique strengths which bolster a team's overall abilities.

Instead of designating work based on what's convenient (or whoever is closest), the best teams look at each individual's skills and determine how they can best contribute — as well as looking for opportunities to facilitate collaboration and improve performance.

Find out what each team member wants to do and what they excel at. Then figure out how you can divide and conquer the challenge before you.

Teamwork isn't always the ideal working environment for everyone, as many people prefer to work on their own, or won't be happy unless they can control every detail. However, the combined power of any team is a force to be reckoned with — and the best teams often do the best work.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Listen up

Being open to the opinions of others is a key component of teamwork — and it's also one of the hardest skills to develop.

- It's easy to focus on discussion and planning without putting together the right information. A vital part of that process is giving everyone the chance to participate, and ensuring their input is heard.
- Problem-solving to build a solution can only happen when each team member is engaged in active listening.

Whatever challenges you face with your work, make sure that other members of your team can rely on you. ISTOCK

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Royals rout Giants to force Game 7

The Royals' Eric Hosmer dives into second base ahead of Giants second baseman Joe Panik's tag to cap a two-run double during a seven-run second inning in Game 6 of the World Series on Tuesday in Kansas City. Yordano Ventura tossed seven scoreless innings and the Royals won 10-0 to force a winner-take-all game on Wednesday. Go to metronews.ca for the story.

DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES

Sabres offer little resistance vs. Leafs

10 shots on goal.
Bozak, Kessel, JVR and Gardiner score as Bernier records shutout

The Toronto Maple Leafs tied a franchise record for the fewest shots allowed in a game, and their offence eventually came to life in a 4-0 rout of the Buffalo Sabres on Tuesday night at Air Canada Centre.

The Sabres finished with just 10 shots, and Jonathan Bernier stopped all of them for his eighth career NHL shutout.

Asked if that was his easiest shutout, Bernier said, "Probably, yeah."

The Leafs allowed 10 shots just once before in franchise history, Jan. 5, 2002, against the Ottawa Senators.

On Tuesday

Maple Leafs	Sabres
4	0

In this game, Buffalo goaltender Michal Neuvirth stopped the first 28 shots he faced before the dam burst. Tyler Bozak, Phil Kessel and James van Riemsdyk scored three goals within a span of seven minutes, and Jake Gardiner added another, to improve Toronto's home record to 2-4-0 this season.

The shot differential of 27 (37-10) was by far the largest of the season for the Leafs (4-4-1).

The total of 10 shots was the lowest in franchise history for the Sabres (2-8-0).

Neuvirth kept the Leafs off the board with save after save until the Sabres' parade to the penalty box eventually cost them. With Buffalo's Marcus Foligno off for kneeing Nazem Kadri on a play that briefly sent Dion Phaneuf out of the game, the Leafs finally broke through.

A little over a minute later, Kessel threaded a perfect pass to Bozak at the blue-line, and the centre was in all alone. Bozak shot high glove on Neuvirth to make it 1-0 Leafs with 49.6 seconds left in the second period.

It was the Leafs' first power-play goal since Oct. 12.

As good as Neuvirth was for the game's first two periods, he gave up a bad one to Kessel 4:18 into the second. Santorelli cycled it to the star winger behind the net, and Kessel banked it in off the goaltender from way below the goal line to make it 2-0.

Exactly a minute later, van Riemsdyk had a tap-in at the side of the net to make it a 3-0 lead.

For good measure, Gardiner scored on a wrap-around at 9:17 of the third to turn this into a rout.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mr. Hockey

Howe recovering from a stroke

The Detroit News says hockey legend Gordie Howe suffered a "serious stroke" on Sunday.

Dr. Murray Howe, the son of the 86-year-old Hall of Famer, told the Detroit newspaper that his father has lost some function on one side of his body and has difficulty speaking. The report says "Mr. Hockey" is resting at his daughter's home in Lubbock.

"Wishing my friend Gordie Howe all the best, you're in all of our thoughts and prayers," said Prime Minister Stephen Harper in a tweet from his verified account.

Howe played 25 seasons with the Detroit Red Wings, won four Stanley Cups, six Hart Trophies as the NHL's most valuable player and six Art Ross Trophies as the league's leading scorer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Winnipeg 4, New York 3

Ladd lifts Jets past Islanders

Andrew Ladd scored his second goal of the night 3:31 into the third period, and the Winnipeg Jets rallied to beat the New York Islanders 4-3 in a back-and-forth encounter on Tuesday night.

Ladd put a rebound off Bryan Little's shot into the open right side to put the Jets back in front.

Paul Postma and Jacob Trouba also scored, and Little had three assists for the Jets.

John Tavares, Mikhail Grabovski and Brock Nelson scored for New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MCKENZIE LAKE
LAWYERS

Canada's hoops surge ripples out from Toronto

'All you need is a ball'. It might be hard to envision hockey losing No. 1 status in Canada, but there are signs basketball could contend

The Raptors open their season on Wednesday night when the Atlanta Hawks visit Air Canada Centre. Scan the image with your Metro News app for more news from around the NBA. CLAUS ANDERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

The familiar sounds of balls swishing through nets and high tops squeaking on the court filter out of HoopDome on a busy October night. The basketball facility at Downsview Park is bustling with players all working on their game.

And it's a game that's booming in Canada.

"Within 10 years, the Raptors are going to be the most popular team," outgoing MLSE CEO Tim Leiweke told a group of students at Ryerson University last month. "They will be more popular than the Leafs in Toronto. Promise you."

On the surface, it seemed it could be dismissed as hype — Canada lives and breathes hockey, after all — but if you dig deeper, there is logic behind the Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment president's prediction.

As the Raptors begin their 20th season Wednesday night against the Atlanta Hawks at Air Canada Centre, four months after their playoff run captured the city's imagination, it's clear Canada's only NBA team is at the centre of a perfect storm.

At all levels, from amateur leagues to the NBA, the sport's popularity is growing in Canada, thanks to factors like a new wave of top-shelf Canadian talent.

Toronto-born 2013 and 2014 NBA No. 1 draft picks, Anthony Bennett and Andrew Wiggins, have ushered in a new era. Canada has a record 12 players on NBA rosters this season, the most of any country outside the U.S.

"A lot of (the popularity) is driven by the fact that this is the first generation of kids who've grown up with a team in the country," says Dan MacKenzie, vice-president and general manager of NBA Canada.

Basketball is a "youthful sport," he says, adding 57 per cent of NBA fans are under the age of 35.

Canada's changing demographics are also helping fuel an influx of basketball fans.

MacKenzie said around 250,000 people immigrate to Canada every year from China and the Philippines, two countries where basketball is the No. 1 sport.

Sure, basketball in Canada is growing, but could it really eclipse the popularity of the good ol' hockey game?

At the amateur player level, hockey registration is sluggish. Around 235,900 players were registered in the 2012-2013 Ontario Hockey Federation season, only a slight increase from the just over 233,400 registered in 2008-2009.

Hockey ranked sixth on the 2014 Canadian Youth Sports Report's list of sports perceived as most likely to result in injuries, while basketball didn't even crack the top 10. In the same report, popular team sports such as basketball, volleyball and soccer cost 25 to 50 per cent less than the average. Hockey came in as the second most expensive of all 44 sports studied, with an annual average cost of $1,666.

Mike Jonathan, a Raptors fan who shoots hoops in a men's league at HoopDome three to five nights a week, describes a different scene in his sport.

"All you need is a ball," he says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NBA

Davis comes out swinging in NOLA

Anthony Davis' showed opening night that he's ready to join the upper crust of the NBA elite. The 21-year-old power forward notched 26 points, 17 rebounds, three steals and nine blocks in the New Orleans Pelicans' 101-84 win over the Orlando Magic on Tuesday night. METRO

Pelicans centre Omer Asik slam dunks over Orlando Magic forward Tobias Harris in the first half of Tuesday night's season opener in New Orleans. GERARD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2014 Mercedes-Benz B 250

- **Type.** Five-door, front-wheel-drive hatchback/tall wagon
- **Engine**. 2.0-litre inline turbocharged four-cylinder (208 hp)
- **Transmission.** Seven-speed automatic
- **Price.** $32,575 base, $37,095 as tested

Market position

Entry-level model for Mercedes-Benz Canada, never available in the U.S., although the U.S. will soon get an EV version (no word on EV for Canada). Shares front-drive platform with CLA sedan. Sports Tourer is M-B's way of describing a vehicle that is much like a big hatchback, or a tall wagon with a rear liftgate.

Points

- 2-litre turbo produces 248 lb.-ft. of torque.
- Automatic is a 7-speed dual clutch, which can be shifted with steering wheel paddles.
- One of the few non-hybrid models with an automatic stop/start function, which is disabled in Sport mode.
- Only one trim line and no all-wheel-drive option.
- Built in Germany.
- Typical Mercedes interior.

The driver's seat is where you want to be, with a tall-in-the-saddle feel.

Safety features

Eleven air bags, rain-sensing wipers, safety systems including collision-prevention assist, attention assist, and adaptive brake with hold function, ABS with brake assist, stability and traction control, tire-pressure loss warning, run-flat tires, weight-sensing airbag system, LED daytime headlights and Bi-Xenon headlamps.

Small tourer packs some punch

Review. The Mercedes-Benz B 250 Sports Tourer straddles the hatchback/wagon style to good effect

MIKE GOETZ
drive@metronews.ca

PHOTOS: MIKE GOETZ

Mercedes-Benz has always treaded carefully in lower-priced vehicle classes. The profit numbers probably start to get wonky when you're determined to develop a premium model in a segment where consumers aren't prepared to pay premium prices.

So we get vehicles like the Mercedes-Benz B 250 Sport Tourer, the company's current entry-level model, which is not heavily marketed and is a bit slippery to categorize.

The small, luxury people mover with a liftgate is actually shorter than a Honda Civic or Toyota Corolla, but seems larger in person, probably due to its prominent front grille and its big interior box, which offers an impressive 1,547 litres of cargo space when the rear seats are folded forward. That's almost as much as the VW Tiguan, and the VW crossover is about 25 cm longer.

There's lots of legroom in the rear seats, too, thanks to a huge cavity under the front seats that swallows your feet.

But the driver's seat is where you want to be, with a very tall-in-the-saddle feel and lots of German-engineered trim pieces and materials.

However, I'm not a fan of the controller you must use to access almost everything on the non-touch information screen. The screen is no beauty, either, perched on top of the dash like an afterthought.

On the move, the B 250 is all Mercedes-Benz. I don't remember anything this short having such a big, comfortable ride. It virtually glides over bumps and potholes.

The B 250 has a 2.0-litre turbocharged inline four, with 208 horses and 248 lb.-ft. of torque, hooked to a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission. To get those torque numbers, a big turbo is on-board. But big turbos come with more turbo lag, which is quite noticeable.

The B 250 also has a selectable Eco mode, which, among other fuel-saving initiatives, enacts an automatic stop/start feature for the engine.

Turbo lag, combined with stop/start, does not make for a good launch feel. But since both contribute to fuel savings, getting used to the quirky launch could be worthwhile.

So there are a few quibbles with the B 250, but its major attributes — Mercedes-Benz swag and safety, beautiful ride, space efficiency, and premium at-the-wheel feel — easily had me in its corner.

Compare

1 BMW X1
Base price: $39,085
Sporty, at some expense to ride comfort. All-wheel-drive and 300-hp turbo six options.

2 Audi Q3
Base price:$37,895
Based on VW Tiguan. All-wheel drive available, but no diesel. Beautiful interior.

3 Lexus CT 200h
Base price: $32,995
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Quick off the mark, but not for very long

Driving Force. Today's electric cars offer instant torque and are faster than gas models — over the first few metres

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

The Smart Electric uses a 55-kW motor that makes 75 hp, and out-accelerates some sports cars. JIL MCINTOSH

Although some people still associate electric cars with slow-moving golf carts, nothing could be further from the truth.

The battery-powered cars available today all have quick acceleration that's often faster than that of a gasoline car, for a short period at least, thanks to the inherent nature of electric motors.

"You get immediate torque, which allows you to have immediate acceleration," says Jay Owen, director of Smart Canada, which sells an all-electric version of its two-seater Smart ForTwo. "The gasoline car will catch up, but it has to cycle through a variety of gears."

Even the fastest gasoline cars have a slight delay after you've pressed the accelerator pedal, because it takes a split second for the pistons to start moving faster to rev up the engine. The transmission then has to shift through several gears to get up to top speed.

But the electric motor produces its maximum power immediately, and sends that power to the wheels through a single-speed transmission that doesn't need to shift.

Just as with a gasoline car, the electric power isn't infinite, and there comes a point where the car won't go any faster.

The Smart Electric Drive uses a 55-kW motor that makes 75 horsepower, and it can match or out-accelerate some sports cars in the first five metres. Of course, it drops behind them after that.

As with gasoline cars, some electric vehicles are more powerful than others; it depends on the size of the electric motor. Cars with larger electric motors will accelerate faster and also reach a higher top speed.

"The size of the electric motor determines the car's power, not the size of the battery," Owen says. "The battery determines the car's range."

Drivers naturally want to drive as far as possible before they have to recharge. A bigger battery gives more range but, ironically, its extra weight will cut into the range it provides, since it takes more energy to move a heavier vehicle.

It will also cost more, and automakers have to balance the battery's range against its cost to be sure the car doesn't become so expensive that people won't buy it.

Fast facts

- Electric cars at the turn of the 20th century couldn't go very far, but they were popular because they started easily, while gasoline cars had to be cranked. When Cadillac introduced a gas-engine self-starter in 1912, electric cars were doomed.
- Electric vehicles use regenerative braking, which converts the kinetic energy of braking and stores it in the battery to increase the car's range.
- Battery technology is still the electric car's weak point, and researchers are working on lighter batteries that can store even more power.

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Shift: From hybrids, technology, new vehicles and the environment, to saving money at the pumps

Desperate to lose weight, BMW will try a diet of aluminum

BMW's flagship 7 Series luxury sedan is in for an accelerated weight-loss program, using lessons learned from the development of its i3 electric car and i8 plug-in hybrid sports car. British magazine Autocar says the use of aluminum, magnesium, high-strength steel and carbon-fibre-reinforced plastics could cut the limo's weight by as much as 200 kilograms, bringing a model like the 740i down to just over 1,600 kilograms, or less than the smaller 535i sedan. That echoes the work done at Jaguar, whose aluminum-formed XJ luxury sedan is lighter than the smaller XF model in some variants, notes Green Car Reports. Other automakers are also using more aluminum to reduce weight in their larger vehicles.

ALL STORIES AND PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Automakers are switching to aluminum and other materials such as carbon fibre to improve fuel efficiency.

Smart goes back to school

Completely redesigned for the 2016 model year, Mercedes-Benz's Smart Fortwo is more clever and efficient, with a broader world view that should boost its popularity. Built on a new platform co-developed with French automaker Renault, the Fortwo retains its rear engine, rear-wheel-drive layout, looking less toy-like on the outside. The inside is completely different, with a rounded instrument panel, new centre console, a five-cm wider body and more interior space. More power comes from a turbocharged three-cylinder gasoline engine. Perhaps more critically, there's a new, better-shifting six-speed paddle-shift automatic transmission.

Built on a new platform co-developed with Renault, the new Fortwo looks less toy-like on the outside and is bigger on the inside.

Shift points

- Is General Motors' long-rumoured 320-km EV about to break cover? Automotive News quotes sources within GM as saying Chevrolet's subcompact Spark runabout would be that car, and that it will bow sometime in 2017.
- Fuel-saving stop/start technology is in only about 7 per cent of vehicles sold in North America, says industry analyst HIS Automotive. But by 2020, more than half of all new cars in the U.S. will offer it.
- Volkswagen showed off a GTE plug-in hybrid version of its Passat that boasts 1.7 L/100 km at the Paris auto show. The car will cover 1,000 kilometres on a full tank.

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Much-loved family hauler has few issues

Second gear.
2008 to 2012
Chevrolet Malibu

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

An award-winning four-door, front-wheel drive sedan, Malibu was Chevrolet's answer to family machines like the Ford Fusion, Toyota Camry, Honda Accord, Mazda6, Hyundai Sonata, Chrysler 200 and others.

Available features include heated leather seats, a household power outlet, a sunroof and remote start. Antilock brakes, tire-pressure monitoring and a full traction control system are standard — along with side and curtain airbags.

Common Issues

Confirm proper operation of all door locks, both manually and from the remote and door-mounted controls — several times, to be sure there are no issues.

Listen to the front end of the car when driving at low speeds, especially on rougher surfaces.

Noisy struts, evidenced by a loud clicking or popping sound over a bump, or when the wheel is turned through its range while the vehicle is at rest, will require further attention from a mechanic.

Note that reduced engine power (a blogging sensation) and possible illumination of the traction control light, and a "Service Traction" or "Reduce Engine Power" message displayed in the cluster could be the result of a bad throttle body, or a problem with electrical grounds and wiring.

These issues may store trouble codes in the car's computer, which can be revealed with a scan by a mechanic. They are commonly fixed with a replacement throttle-body, or by having a technician ensure all associated wiring is attached and grounded properly.

Test-drivers should be on the lookout for dampness, moisture staining, or the smell of mould in the footwell areas. A blocked sunroof drain tube or improperly sealed body seams could be the culprit if a water leak is detected in these areas.

Some Malibu models from this generation were recalled to address a sudden loss of power-steering assist, which could lead to an accident. Ask a GM dealer to check whether the car you're considering needs the recall work. You just need the VIN number.

Finally, although reliability information on the hybrid variant is fairly sparse, shoppers are advised strongly against purchasing a unit that hasn't first been inspected by a qualified hybrid technician.

CONTRIBUTED

What owners like

Owner reviews confirm model offered a quiet highway ride that's also well-sprung, comfortable, and suitable for long-distance cruising. Easy entry and exit, a large trunk, plenty of organization via cubbies and compartments and an overall easy-to-drive feel round out the package.

What owners dislike

Complaints include a narrow trunk opening, some questionable-looking bits of interior trim, and a steering wheel that feels too large.

Engines

At launch, power came from a 2.4-litre inline four-cylinder engine or a 3.6-litre V6 — with power rated at 169 or 252 horses, respectively. A mild hybrid variant was also available.

The verdict

Malibu seems to be a much-loved family sedan for comfort, practicality and value. Most of the issues shoppers are likely to face should be easy to spot on a test drive, and easy for a mechanic to address.

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

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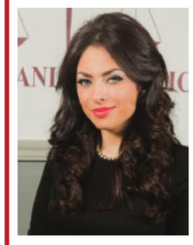
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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
No matter how fast you work today you won't be able to get on top of your schedule, so just tackle what needs to be done at your own speed and don't worry about the timing.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Don't get so absorbed in a work or social issue that you miss the signals a loved one is sending you. Mundane matters can wait — relationships cannot.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
It may sadden you that a loved one feels unhappy with what you're doing. But, the more you try to convince them it's OK, the more anti they are likely to get.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
According to the planets you want to do one thing but your subconscious mind says you should be doing something else. What matters is that you do something — right now.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't get uptight if things don't go the way you want them to. The best way to deal with challenges is to place yourself in a situation where you are forced to find a solution.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The longer you spend thinking about what course of action to take next, the less likely it is you will do anything. Focus on whatever idea comes first.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will be so sensitive to others' moods today that you may prefer to be by yourself for a while. That's perfectly fine.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Whatever challenges you have to deal with today, try not to attach much importance to them. What matters is that you save your energy for the more serious issues which lie ahead.

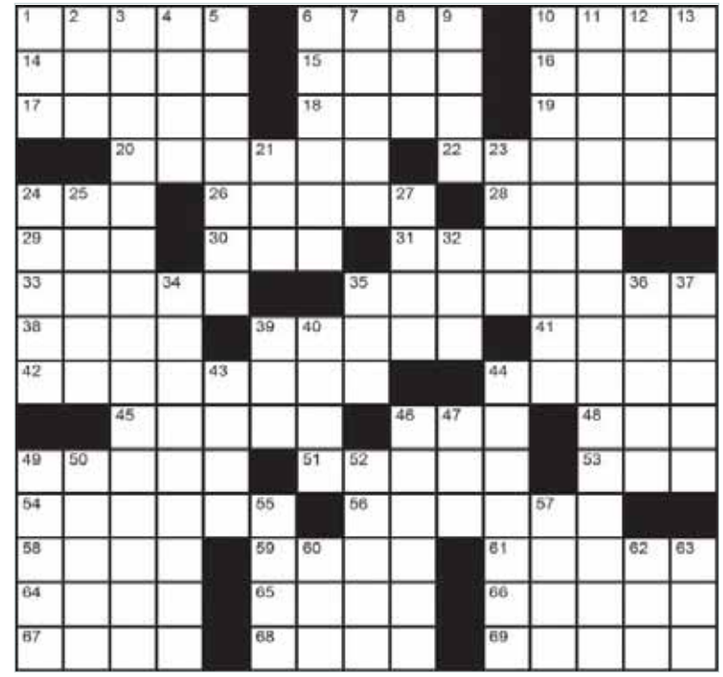
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Certain people seem determined to find fault with your performance. Now that you know that, you can take steps to make sure your performance is excellent.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Others will rush this way and that way today, trying to get on top of things but you will take it all in stride. Just make sure you don't get so laidback that you neglect certain responsibilities.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Try not to be so driven in your pursuit of success. Be ambitious by all means but don't lose your sense of perspective. You know there are more important things than fame and fortune.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If your instincts tell you not to ask too many questions then you will have no one but yourself to blame if you hear something you don't much like.

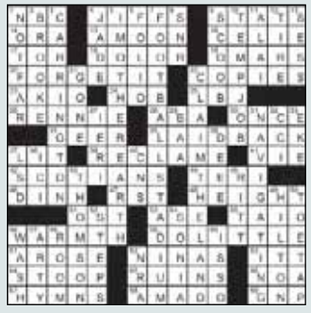
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Patron's passage
6. Pre-DVD machines
10. Tartaned one
14. Like a no-victor-yet match
15. American restaurant chain
16. Eugene O'Neill's daughter
17. Bread-making verb
18. "The Green Hornet" character
19. Tussle tresses
20. Causes fury
22. "...a will, __ a way."
24. Crooner Mr. Boone
26. Lizard type
28. Be indebted: 2 wds.
29. "La Isla Bonita" line: "Te dijo te __."
30. Kris, to Kourtney
31. Incan site, __ Picchu
33. Lee-Enfield, for one
35. High quantity of omega-3 in which North Atlantic fish?
38. Greek war goddess
39. Oil: French
41. Alphabet sequence
42. Ding-donger
44. Q. "Is '__.' __ abbreviation for Tuesday's follower?" A. "Yes."
45. Ontario rural community
46. Office neckwear
48. Long ago time
49. Screen legend Greta
51. Norwegian ...in Norwegian
53. Hit the slopes
54. "I'm fine with that." = "_ _ __ __."
56. Spectacular Canoe-travelling fur traders of the woods in New France: 3 mots
58. Whirring sound
59. Type size
61. Reality series for Lisa Vanderpump, to fans
64. 'Buck' suffix
65. Tehran's land
66. Muhammad Ali's daughter
67. Dish soap brand
68. Brand name
69. Salts sort

Down
1. Diving bird
2. Holiday's follower
3. Jully Black hit featuring Demarco: 4 wds.
4. Temporarily give money
5. Final stage
6. Dragons new to CBC's "Dragons' Den": Restaurateur, __ Vij ...and #44-Down...
7. BC: __ Provincial Park
8. Decay
9. Predicament
10. "West Side Story" (1961) song
11. Canadian History: breath mint
12. Commencement
13. 1817 poem by #34-Down, The Lament of __
21. Bigheadedness
23. Pig part
24. Peeled
25. __ acid
27. George Clooney's new wife
32. Hotshot
34. Romantic poet from England (b.1788 - d.1824): 2 wds.
35. Rich dollar amt.
36. Canadian showbiz news show
37. Monday: French
39. HRH part
40. __ Bator, Mongolia
43. Explosive sound!
44. As per #6-Down... Financier, Michael __
46. Absent without permission
47. AOL, e.g.
49. Spoil: 2 wds.
50. Director Mr. Kurosawa
52. Grouch on "Sesame Street"
55. Legendary
57. George Gershwin's 'Blue' musical work, briefly
60. 'Ump' suffix
62. Gumball brand, Rain-__
63. Camera-loving actor

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	6	8	2	5	3	4	7	1
7	4	5	6	1	8	3	2	9
2	1	3	9	7	4	6	8	5
8	3	1	5	6	2	7	9	4
5	9	7	3	4	1	8	6	2
4	2	6	7	8	9	5	1	3
1	5	4	8	9	7	2	3	6
6	8	2	1	3	5	9	4	7
3	7	9	4	2	6	1	5	8

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	1	5				4	9	
4			8		1			2
			4					5
			2					4
			6					9
		9					6	
	2					1		
8					6			
9	4	1	7		2	5	8	6

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OFFER ENDS OCT. 31ST

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KIA GEAR UP & SAVE EVENT

0% UP TO 84 MONTHS FINANCING ON SELECT 2015 MODELS + DON'T PAY *until* NEXT YEAR

AVAILABLE ON 2015 FINANCING OFFERS ONLY‡

OR CHOOSE GREAT CASH OFFERS

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $12,014‡ INCLUDING $3,600† IN CASH CREDIT

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown△
Cash purchase price $22,514 – hwy / city 100km^: 5.3L/7.3L

2015 RIO LX MT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $3,600 cash credit†. Offer based on 2015 Rio LX MT (RO541F) with a selling price of $15,614. Excludes HST.

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $13,014‡ INCLUDING $4,500† IN CASH CREDIT

Forte SX shown△
Cash purchase price $26,814 – hwy / city 100km^: 5.3L/8.0L

2015 FORTE LX MT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $4,500 cash credit†. Offer based on 2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F) with a selling price of $17,514. Excludes HST.

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $24,294‡ INCLUDING $4,500† IN CASH CREDIT

Sorento EX shown△
Cash purchase price $33,494 – hwy / city 100km^: 9.0L/12.7L

2015 SORENTO LX AT

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $4,500 cash credit†. Offer based on 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) with a selling price of $28,794. Excludes HST.

LAST CHANCE

2014 CLEAROUT UP TO $6,000 CASH BONUS*

Optima Hybrid EX shown△

2014 OPTIMA HYBRID

UP TO $6,000 CASH BONUS*

Rondo EX Luxury 7-seat shown△

2014 RONDO

UP TO $5,500 CASH BONUS*

"HIGHEST RANKED SMALL SUV IN INITIAL QUALITY IN A TIE IN THE U.S."

Sportage SX AT Luxury AWD shown△

2014 SPORTAGE

UP TO $5,000 CASH BONUS*

AVAILABLE ON CASH, FINANCE OR LEASE*

KIA
The Power to Surprise

5 year warranty*

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED
*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include fuel-fill charges up to $100, dealer administration fees up to $399, licensing or applicable taxes.

15TH ANNIVERSARY

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Offer(s) available on select new 2014/2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from October 1 to 31, 2014. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,665, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, other taxes, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. ^Cash purchase price offer for the new 2015 Rio LX MT (RO541F)/2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F)/2015 Sorento 2.4L LX AT (SR75BF) with a selling price of $12,014/$13,014/$24,294 includes delivery and destination fees of up to $1,665, $5 OMVIC fee, tire tax of $29, $100 A/C charge (where applicable) and a $3,600/$4,500/$4,500 cash credit. See retailer for complete details. †Cash credit amounts are offered on select 2014/2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated cash purchase price before taxes. Available on cash purchase offer only. Offer varies by trim. Certain conditions apply. Offer ends October 31, 2014. See your dealer for complete details. *Cash bonus amounts are offered on select 2014 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase price before taxes. Available on finance, lease or cash purchase offers. Offer varies by trim. Certain conditions apply. $6,000/$5,000/$5,500 maximum cash bonus amount only available on the 2014 Optima Hybrid EX (OP74CE) and includes a $1,000 ECO-Credit/2014 Sportage SX AT (SP75BE)/2014 Rondo EX Luxury 7-seat (RN75TE). **"Don't Pay Until 2015" on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on 2015 models only, on approved credit. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. Offer ends October 31, 2014. △Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Forte SX (FO748F)/2015 Rio4 SX with Navigation (RO749F)/2014 Sportage SX AT Luxury AWD (SP759E)/2014 Rondo EX Luxury 7-seat (RN757E)/2014 Optima Hybrid EX (OP74CE)/2015 Sorento 3.3L EX AT AWD (SR75HF) is $26,695/$22,395/$38,295/$30,795/$33,695/$34,495. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO A1/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl MT/2015 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl AT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. The 2014 Kia Sportage received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among small SUVs in a tie in the proprietary J.D. Power 2014 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 86,118 new-vehicle owners, measuring 239 models, and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed from February to May, 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.